# THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

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## Particulars of MARGARET NICHOLSON's Attempt to aſſaſſinate his MAJESTY.

LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY.

*St James's, Wedneſday, Aug. 2.*

THIS morning, as his Majeſty was alighting from his carriage at the gate of the palace, a woman, who was waiting there under pretence of preſenting a petition, ſtruck at his Majeſty with a knife; but providentially his Majeſty received no injury. The woman was immediately taken into cuſtody; and upon examination appears to be inſane.

An extraordinary Gazette gives importance to a ſubject; but this gazette is ſo very ſhort, that ſome further particulars of this very intereſting fact appear to be neceſſary.

It was at the garden-door oppoſite the Duke of Marlborough's wall, that the woman, who appeared decently dreſſed, preſented to his Majeſty a paper folded up in the form of a petition. His Majeſty, in ſtooping to receive it, felt a thruſt made at his belly, which paſſed between his coat and his waiſtcoat. The King drew back, and ſaid, "What does the woman mean!" At that inſtant one of the yeomen (Lodge) laying hold of her arm, obſerved ſomething drop out of her hand, which another perſon taking up, ſaid, "It is a knife!" The King

ſaid, "I am not hurt—take care of the woman—ſhe is mad—do not hurt her*."

His Majeſty then went forward into the palace; and, when he had recovered the ſurpriſe, appeared to be greatly affected, expreſſing in a kind of faultering voice, that, "ſurely! he had not deſerved ſuch treatment from any of his ſubjects." On opening the paper, when he entered the royal apartments, there were found written, "To the King's Moſt Excellent Majeſty," the uſual head to petitions, but nothing more.

The woman was immediately taken into cuſtody, and carried to the inner guard-chamber. Being queſtioned how ſhe could make ſuch a wicked and daring an attempt, her anſwer was, that "when ſhe was brought before proper perſons, ſhe would give her reaſons."

She was then taken to the Queen's antichamber, where ſhe remained from twelve till near five, during all which time, though ſpoken to by ſeveral of the nobility, ſhe did not condeſcend once to open her lips, but appeared totally unmoved by any repreſentations of the atrocity of her crime.

At five o'clock ſhe was taken to the board of green cloth for examination, where were preſent the Attorney and Solicitor Generals and Maſter of the Rolls, Mr Pitt, the Earl of Salisbury, Marquis of Caermarthen, Lord Sydney, Sir Francis Drake, and ſeveral magiſtrates.

Being interrogated, ſhe ſaid, her name was Margaret Nicholſon, daughter of George Nicholſon of Stockton-upon-Tees in Durham; that ſhe had a brother who kept a public houſe in Milford-lane; that ſhe came to London at twelve years of age, and had lived in ſeveral creditable ſervices. Being aſked, where ſhe had lived ſince ſhe left her laſt place? to this ſhe anſwered frantically, "ſhe had been all abroad ſince that matter of the Crown broke out."—Being aſked what matter; ſhe went on rambling, that the Crown was her's—ſhe wanted nothing but her right—that ſhe had great property—that if ſhe had not her right, England would be drowned in blood for a thouſand generations. Being further aſked where ſhe now lived; ſhe anſwered rationally, "at Mr Fiſk's, ſtationer, the corner of Marybone, Wigmore-ſtreet." On being queſtioned, as to her right; ſhe would anſwer none but a judge, her rights were a myſtery. Being aſked, if ſhe had ever petitioned; ſaid ſhe had, ten days ago. On looking back among the papers, ſuch petition was found, full of princely nonſenſe about tyrants, uſurpers, and pretenders to the throne, &c. &c.

Mr Fiſk, being ſent for and interrogated, ſaid, ſhe had lodged with him about three years; that he had not obſerved any ſtriking marks of infanity about her—ſhe was certainly very odd at times—frequently talking to herſelf—that ſhe lived by taking in plain work, &c. Others who knew her ſaid, ſhe was very induſtrious, and they never ſuſpected her of infamty.

Dr Monro being ſent for, ſaid, it was impoſſible to diſcover with certainty immediately whether ſhe was inſane or not. It was propoſed to commit her for three or four days to Tothil-fields Bridewell. This was objected to, becauſe it was ſaid, ſhe was a ſtate priſoner. At length it was agreed to commit her to the cuſtody of a meſſenger.

Her lodgings being examined, there were found three letters written about her pretended right to the crown, one to Lord Mansfield, one to Lord Loughborough, and one to Gen. Bramham.

His Majeſty's preſence of mind, and great humanity, were very conſpicuous in his behaviour upon this ſhocking and terrifying attempt to take away his life. And if he had not inſtantly retreated, or if the wretch had made uſe of her right hand inſtead of her left, the conſequences might have been of a moſt fatal nature.

It has been ſaid, that the knife was concealed in the paper; but the fact was, it was under her cloak; and when ſhe preſented the paper with her right hand, ſhe took it and made a thruſt with her left.

The inſtrument ſhe uſed was an old ivory handled deſert knife, worn very thin towards the point; ſo thin, that a perſon preſſing the point againſt his hand, it bent almoſt double without penetrating the ſkin.

This attempt circulated through the city with amazing rapidity, and, gathering as it flew, a thouſand fictions were added. The inſtant publication of the GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY ſtopt at once their miſchievous effect.

Next

* The Earl of Salisbury ordered a gratuity to the yeoman of the guard and the King's footman, who firſt ſecured Mrs Nicholſon after her attempt on the King; the rewards were 100 l. to the firſt, and 50 l. to the other.

Next day, Aug. 3 Mr Juſtice Addington went to ſee her: ſhe told him, that they had diſtracted her the day before with their queſtions; that ſhe did not underſtand them; but ſhe had it all here [*pointing to the back part of her head*]; that the King had no right to the Crown; that the Crown was hers, &c. She began about Lord Mansfield and Lord Loughborough—ſhe had brought them both into the world—they owed their being to her—but ſhe was not their mother—ſhe never knew man. It was all a myſtery: but ſhe had it right [*pointing as before*]. Upon the whole, (examination after examination), nothing but marked inſanity appeared to actuate her conduct. When the magiſtrates came to ſearch her lodgings, they found nothing but three letters, as has been already noticed, and in her pockets three halfpence and a ſilver ſix-pence, all the money ſhe had; and as to cloaths, thoſe on her back were her whole ſtock, and, except her cloak and bonnet, were very indifferent. Lord Sydney ordered her cloaths, and all other neceſſaries, of which ſhe was in great need.

She is rather a little woman, of a ſwarthy complexion, a native of Durham, her father a barber. When ſhe preſented the petition to the King, ſhe was dreſſed in a flowered linen or muſlin gown, black gauze bonnet, black ſilk cloak, morning wire cap with blue ribbons.

On the 4th a council was ſummoned to meet for the farther examination of Margaret Nicholſon; but the ſame was put off till the 8th, when an extraordinary council was held at the Marquis of Caermarthen's office; at which the Lord Chancellor, the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, Mr Pitt, the Lords Caermarthen and Sydney, the Attorney and Solicitor General, &c &c. were preſent. Mr Fiſk, Ann Southby (who lodged in the next chamber to Margaret Nicholſon), Mr Wilſon, hatter in Bond-ſtreet, at whoſe houſe ſhe lodged before ſhe lodged with Mr Fiſk, with ſeveral other perſons, were examined; as were the Doctors Monro, ſenior and junior, Mr Cotes the meſſenger, his wife, and the nurſe who attended her, Nicholſon, &c. from whoſe united teſtimony it appeared that ſhe was undoubtedly INSANE. The whole of the examination being cloſed, together with the opinions of the Lords of Counſel thereupon, were laid before his Majeſty on the 9th, for his conſideration.

In conſequence of an order from Lord Sydney, ſhe was, on the 9th, taken by Mr Cotes, the King's meſſenger, in a hackney coach, to Bedlam. Mrs Cotes, another lady, and the nurſe, went with her. As ſoon as the coach was called to take her away, ſhe was told by Mr Cotes, they were going on a party of pleaſure, and aſked her to accompany them, which ſhe readily agreed to; and ſtepping into the coach, was in very good ſpirits, and talked very rationally the whole of the way, till they came under the wall of Bedlam; ſhe then obſerved, that ſhe knew where they were taking her to. Upon her entrance into Bedlam, ſhe was aſked, if ſhe then knew where ſhe was. She anſwered, "Perfectly well." The ſteward of the hoſpital behaved with much kindneſs to her, and invited her and the company to dine with him, which they did, and during the whole time ſhe appeared perfectly collected, except when the name of the King was mentioned, ſhe continued ſaying, "ſhe expected him to viſit her." After dinner, Mr Cotes again aſked her, if ſhe knew in what houſe ſhe was. She anſwered, "Yes." He then told her, that he hoped ſhe would patiently and quietly ſubmit to the regulations of that place. She compoſedly replied, "Certainly." He alſo informed her, that ſhe would be indulged with pen, ink, and paper, to write to ſuch of her friends as ſhe thought proper.—This offer ſhe did not then notice. At ſix o'clock ſhe was conducted to her cell, which had been previouſly furniſhed with new bedding, &c. for her reception; and a chain was put round her leg, and faſtened to the floor. Whilſt this was doing, ſhe was perfectly compoſed, and did not ſeem to take any notice of it. On being aſked by the ſteward, if the chain hurt her leg, as it ſhould be altered if it did; ſhe replied, "No, not at all." Mr Cotes was then about to leave her; but ſhe called to him, and reminded him of his promiſe, that ſhe ſhould have pen, ink, and paper, ſaying, that ſhe had letters to write which ſhe wiſhed to ſend by him. Pen, ink, and paper, were immediately brought her, and Mr Cotes waited near an hour; but ſhe did not attempt to write any thing.

Margaret Nicholſon lived ſome years ago with a lady of quality in Brudenel-ſtreet, as her own ſervant. Her maſter's valet de-chambre paid his addreſſes t[o] her; her conduct before the family w[as] ver[y]

very reſerved; but one of the family happening to remain up after the reſt were a-bed, in walking up ſtairs ſoftly, at a late hour, ſurpriſed the valet-de-chambre going out of her bed-room. The news ſoon reached her miſtreſs's ear; they were both diſmiſſed. They ſought a new place, and found one, where they lived together ſome time; but quitted it, and ſought a third, which proved unfortunate to her. Here her lover deſerted her, courted another, married her, left ſervice, and took an inn. From that time ſhe abandoned herſelf to ſolitude; and hence, perhaps, was planted the root of her diſorder.

On Friday the 4th, the King arrived about ten minutes before 12 o'clock at St James's, from Windſor. After dreſſing, he entered the levee-room, where a greater number of the nobility attended than had been known ſince his Majeſty's acceſſion to the throne. Many old Peers who had not been at St James's for a number of years, moſt of the foreign miniſters, and an infinity of commoners, appeared on the occaſion; all of whom teſtified, in the moſt loyal expreſſions, their great ſatisfaction on his Majeſty's providential eſcape.

The following Form of Thankſgiving was read in all churches and chapels, Sunday, Aug. 13., morning and evening:

"O Lord God of our ſalvation, in whoſe hands are the iſſues of life, and by whoſe Almighty Power all the kingdoms of the earth are governed; We humbly proſtrate ourſelves before thee with all thankfulneſs for the providential delivery of thy ſervant, our Sovereign, from the great danger to which his life was lately expoſed. We praiſe thee, we bleſs thee, O God, thou preſerver of men, for this ſignal inſtance of thy goodneſs to theſe nations. We laud and magnify thy glorious name, that notwithſtanding our manifold ſins and tranſgreſſions, thou haſt not forgotten to be gracious to thy ſervants.

Continue, we beſeech thee, the favour of thy countenance to thine anointed, and to us his people. Let thy Almighty hand ever be over him; let not the arm of violence approach to hurt him. Bleſs him in his perſon, and his royal family. Sanctify the means and inſtruments of all his righteous purpoſes; direct his councils, and proſper his undertakings, to the eſtabliſhment and promotion of thy true religion, and to the comfort of thy faithful people. Finally, let the manifeſtations of thy mercy and loving kindneſs ever create and maintain in us, ſorrow for our ſins, reformation of our lives, and truſt in thy ſalvation, through our Lord and Saviour, Jeſus Chriſt. Amen."

Addreſſes from all parts of the kingdom have been preſented to the throne on this occaſion.—We inſert thoſe from London and Edinburgh.

To the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty,

The humble Addreſs of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council aſſembled.

*Moſt Gracious Sovereign,*

WE, your Majeſty's dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common Council aſſembled, humbly approach the throne with our moſt ſincere congratulations on the providential deliverance manifeſted in the failure of that outrageous attempt which ſo lately endangered your Majeſty's royal perſon.

Impelled at once by duty and inclination, your Majeſty's faithful citizens of London are happy in tendering an unfeigned aſſurance of their affection and zeal for your Majeſty's perſon and government.

Deeply ſenſible of the value and importance of your Majeſty's life to the proſperity of your kingdoms, and of the unſpeakable affliction which your people would have ſuſtained by its mournful termination, the late horrid occurrence (which threatened that national calamity) could not fail to excite in their minds a proportionate alarm; but more particularly painful and ſevere were their ſenſations on reflecting, that your Majeſty's gracious attention to the petitions of your ſubjects had proved the lamentable cauſe of expoſing your ſacred perſon to danger.

Permit us, Royal Sir, to add our moſt fervent prayers, that your reign may continue long and proſperous, over free, happy, and united ſubjects: and that your deſcendants may tranſmit the bleſſings the nation now enjoys to the lateſt poſterity.

His Majeſty received the Common Council very graciouſly, and was pleaſed to return the following anſwer to this loyal addreſs:

"I receive with the greateſt pleaſure, the very affectionate expreſſions of your duty

duty and attachment to me, and thank you for your congratulations upon the providential deliverance from the attack which has lately been made upon my perſon: theſe profeſſions cannot but be acceptable to me from my loyal city of London, to whom I am always diſpoſed to ſhow every mark of attention and regard."

Mr Alderman Hammet received the honour of knighthood.

To the King's Moſt Excellent Majeſty,

The humble Addreſs of the Lord Provoſt, Magiſtrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh, in Common Council aſſembled.

*Moſt Gracious Sovereign,*

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful, loyal, and affectionate ſubjects, the Lord Provoſt, Magiſtrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh, beg leave to approach your royal perſon with the warmeſt congratulations to your Majeſty, and ſincereſt thanks to Heaven, for the preſervation of your Majeſty's life in the moment of danger.

Firmly attached to your Majeſty's perſon and family, and deeply ſenſible of the many bleſſings which we enjoy under your Majeſty's government, we reflect with horror on the late daring attempt of a wretched aſſaſſin, and intreat your Majeſty to be careful of a life ſo dear to us, and ſo important to the nation.

May that God who has reſcued you from death, long preſerve your Majeſty, for the happineſs of your people, and for the defence of our glorious and free conſtitution.

Signed, in our name, and by our appointment, and the ſeal of the city affixed hereto, the 18th Auguſt 1786.

J. HUNTER BLAIR, Provoſt.

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*An Inquiry into the pretexts for excluding Females from ſeats in Legiſlative Aſſemblies, extracted from Mr Wallace's Diſcourſe on the Nature and Deſcent of ancient Peerages.*

A Queſtion nearly connected with that treated in an elegant letter, ſigned E. T. inſerted in one of our late Magazines, p. 161, and very intereſting as well as curious in itſelf, is conſidered in Mr Wallace's Account of the ſtate, the conſtitution, the fiefs, and the honours of Scotland, lately publiſhed under the title of *The Nature and Deſcent of Ancient Peerages.* That work is the only one known to us, in which the important queſtion there ſtated has been examined. The following paſſage, extracted from it, will not, perhaps, be unacceptable to our readers.

"A plain perſon, who reflects on the capital right implied in them (peerages), will readily pronounce that dignities, whoſe eſſence conſiſts in conferring inelective ſeats in a legiſlative aſſembly of which men are alone permitted to be members, muſt be intended only for males: grants, either couched in expreſſions that are not in themſelves determinate, or whoſe terms, not being reduced into writing, can only be gathered, by imagination, from conjecture, ought to be explained in a ſenſe agreeable to their object. In every country, even in ſuch whoſe inhabitants are moſt paſſionately attached to liberty, and in which their natural equality or independence has been moſt extenſively recognized by the ſupreme power in the diſtincteſt terms, women are conſtantly found excluded from the public ſenates of the ſtate; the congreſſes of America and the Wittenagemots of England, no leſs than the comitia of Rome, and the conventions of Athens. A general principle, older than any record, without any perceivable reſiſtance proceeding from the powerful party immediately intereſted to diſpute its juſtice, ſeems thence to have been ſilently introduced into civil ſociety, and now to be firmly eſtabliſhed in the political creeds of all nations: And this maxim, from its high antiquity or perfect familiarity, commands an eaſy and unſuſpicious aſſent, even in regions in which mankind are acknowledged by the conſtitution of their government to have rights, and the hands of females are not ſuppoſed, from long cuſtom, to be too delicate or too feeble to ſuſtain the ſceptre and the weight of royalty. The fact is inconteſtable; but thoughtful inquirers may puſh their reſearches farther; and, from a philoſophical curioſity always laudable as well as entirely harmleſs, will perhaps be inclined to examine the foundation of an inſtitution, in itſelf ſo remarkable, that debars an equal half of human kind from any formal ſhare in conſultations held about meaſures, by which their conduct muſt be governed, their property is affected, and their liberty is reſtrained. Some natural views muſt undoubtedly have led to its firſt eſtabliſhment, and muſt alſo have obtained the acquieſcence, ſo patient and ſo univerſal, which has been gained to it. Thoſe who, to account for the excluſion of females, aſſert, that from nature the apprehenſions of women are not equally quick, that their fancies are not equally lively,

that their judgements are not equally correct, that their hearts are not equally benevolent, and that, with like advantages, their ſentiments would not be equally juſt as thoſe of the men, cannot have been fortunate in their acquaintance, or, perhaps, their underſtandings are limited by an aſtringent narrow conceited pedantry. But—without a ſeverity of ſtudy, a fulneſs of knowledge, and an intenſeneſs of thought, of which the offices females are pleaſed, as well as deſtined to perform, ſeem ſcarcely to admit, diſtinct and enlarged opinions cannot be attained on the involved and thorny matters which muſt be diſcuſſed in national councils: The courſe of education, which, being ſuppoſed moſt adapted to qualify for diſcharging thoſe functions, has generally been reckoned proper for the ſex, is little ſuited to the perfect attainment of thoſe clear and accurate conceptions: The habits as well as notions of life, which thence are commonly contracted by women, tend rather to create in them an indiſpoſition, than to excite a paſſion, towards political labour and diſquiſitions: And duties, eſſential to the preſervation of ſociety, oblige them at times to avoid expoſing their perſons to hazard, or diſable them to endure fatigue, and to ſtir from home. The unembarraſſed confidence, too, acquired by frequent appearances in crowded theatres, the intemperate agitations into which public ſpeakers are often thrown, and even the maſculine faculty of delivering long orations with force or with compoſure in a mixed aſſembly, might wholly diveſt them of thoſe principal charms; modeſty, ſoftneſs, delicacy; which contribute ſo powerfully towards inſpiring love and preſerving affection. Their preſence, alſo, ſhould engage the attention of the men from other objects, to a contemplation of their beauty; and places at which the ſexes ſhould intermingle, inſtead of grave conventions for the ſerious diſcuſſion of intereſting buſineſs, might degenerate into ſcenes of frivoloufneſs, of gallantry, and even of corruption: Or the keen contentious, ever ready to ariſe among ſpirits ſtimulated with ambition, might ſometimes be inflamed between them into unnatural, but pointed oppoſitions, inimical to that intenſe and enthuſiaſtic, yet ſweet and tender paſſion, whoſe fond devoted anxious ſentiments conſtitute the pureſt and the higheſt delight of every warm ingenuous elegant mind. On theſe pretexts, or perhaps by the ſtrength and the arrogance of the men, females have been excluded in moſt nations from taking any part, either deliberative or deciſive, in meetings held to conſult about general laws; and in Scotland, votes in theſe aſſemblies have always been confined to males. The Peerages, therefore, which, for thoſe ſole purpoſes, were created in 1587 out of the noble honours anterior to that year, muſt now be deſcendible to men only, by whom the illuſtrious privilege implied in that elevated condition is alone exerciſable; and, agreeably to the ſtrict interpretation put by law on all patents by which high public truſts are conferred, theſe maſculine fiefs muſt be limited to heirs-male, for whom alone they can be preſumed to have then been intended *.

Hugh Lord Fraſer of Lovat died in 1697 without male iſſue; and, on his death, the title of Lady Fraſer of Lovat was aſſumed by his eldeſt daughter, Æmilia Fraſer. Simon Fraſer of Beaufort, grandſon of her great great grandfather, the Lord Fraſer of Lovat, who had died in 1646, was heir-male of that family, and in this character claimed, in the Court of Seſſion, the honours from her ſon Hugh Mackenzie of Fraſerdale, the heir-general, who, after his mother's death, had taken poſſeſſion of them. The pretenſions of both parties were not leſs ably maintained by their counſel, than attentively examined by the judges in Scotland. The learned papers written in that intereſting ſuit, are the principal ſource of the whole erudition, which after minuter reſearches has been more pompouſly, and perhaps more correctly, diſplayed in ſubſequent caſes: And in 1730 that ſupreme court, after a full and accurate inveſtigation, pronounced a deciſive judgement, on general principles, in favour of the heir male †. In that judgement Mr Mackenzie acquieſced: Simon Lord Fraſer of Lovat poſſeſſed the peer-

* Fountainhall's Deciſions, Jan 23. 1706, Earl of Sutherland v. Earl of Crauford

† The Court, July 3. 1730, declared, "the title, dignity, and honours of Lord Fraſer of Lovat, to pertain and belong to the ſaid Simon Lord Fraſer of Lovat, purſuer, as eldeſt lawful ſon of Thomas Lord Fraſer of Lovat, his father, who was grand-uncle to Hugh Lord Fraſer of Lovat, deceaſed, father of the ſaid Mrs Æmilia Fraſer, and grandfather of the ſaid Hugh Mackenzie, defender, and conſequently, as heir-male of the family of Lord Fraſer of Lovat, to whom the ſaid title and dignity does deſcend."

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age during his life, and his right was recognized by all the branches of the Britiſh legiſlature. In 1746, under the title of Simon Lord Lovat, articles of impeachment were exhibited againſt him by the Houſe of Commons, for acceſſion to the rebellion raiſed againſt his Majeſty George II.; he was tried by the Houſe of Lords as a peer; Lord Hardwicke, the excellent Chancellor, was created by the Sovereign, Lord High Steward to preſide at that trial; remarkable, beſides other things, for affording us, alas, almoſt the only genuine monument of thoſe vaſt powers of which but a feeble conception can be formed even from that admirable diſcourſe: And on Lovat's conviction, the cruel puniſhment, which his Lordſhip had been condemned to ſuffer, was commuted by the mercy of the crown into decollation, a diſtinction commonly granted to nobility.

*Propoſal for erecting a Monument to Mr* HOWARD.

A Propoſal for erecting a ſtatue in honour of Mr Howard, appeared in the Gentleman's Magazine for May, and has met with great encouragement. Many reſpectable characters have ſtood forth as ſupporters of the deſign, and liberal ſubſcriptions have been received. Mr Howard is at preſent in Turkey, on a godlike errand, to try to reſtrain the ravages of the plague. And who knows not with how truly a Chriſtian ſpirit and undaunted courage he, before, went about doing good; how glorioufly he has devoted a great part of his life and property to repeated viſits to moſt of thoſe manſions of miſery and infection, the jails of Europe, and how many a weary priſoner whom he came into has been bound to bleſs him, for the removal of at leaſt ſome horror, for the alleviation of at leaſt ſome anguiſh. As a ſpecimen of the exalted worth of Mr Howard, "the friend of every clime, a patriot of the world," we give the following extract from Mr Burke's nervous ſpeech at the Guildhall, Briſtol, in 1780: "I cannot name this gentleman (Mr Howard) without remarking, that his labours and writings have done much to open the eyes and hearts of mankind. He has viſited all Europe—not to ſurvey the ſumptuouſneſs of palaces, or the ſtateline ſs of temples; not to make accurate meaſurements of the remains of ancient grandeur, nor to form a ſcale of the curioſity of modern art; not to collect medals, or to collate manuſcripts:—but to dive into the depths of dungeons; to plunge into the infection of hoſpitals; to ſurvey the manſions of ſorrow and pain; to take the gage and dimenſions of miſery, depreſſion, and contempt; to remember the forgotten, to attend to the neglected, to viſit the forſaken, and to compare and collate the diſtreſſes of all men in all countries. His plan is original; and is as full of genius as it is of humanity. It was a voyage of diſcovery, a circumnavigation of charity. Already the benefit of his labour is felt, more or leſs, in every country: I hope he will anticipate his final reward, by ſeeing all its effects fully realized in his own. He will receive, not by retail but in groſs, the reward of thoſe who viſit the priſoner; and he has ſo foreſtalled and monopolized this branch of charity, that there will be, I truſt, little room to merit by ſuch acts of benevolence hereafter."

Dr John Coakley Lettſom, of Baſſinghall-ſtreet, London, was among the firſt who ſubſcribed to this undertaking. In the letter to Mr Nichols, printer of the Gentleman's Magazine, which accompanied his ſubſcription, the Doctor ſays, "To evince my approbation of erecting a monument to commemorate the godlike actions of the *living* Howard, I incloſe a draft for ten guineas, to be appropriated to that deſign.

Perſuaded as I am, that his character and writings will ſurvive the moſt durable monument of friendſhip; yet ſuch an example of approbation appears to me calculated to promote many beneficial purpoſes, though it cannot augment the zeal of this amiable man in the purſuit of leſſening human miſery. Public approbation of private and public virtues, whilſt it acknowledges a debt due to intrinſic merit, reflects the higheſt honour on the community; for to reward virtue is a pleaſing proof of its prevalence; and that it does prevail, the monument of Howard will teſtify.

Virtue, whether ſhining in the public walks of life, or emitting the ſoft rays of human benevolence in the dungeons of miſery, will ever obtain its own internal reward beyond all the powers of ſculpture; but to exhibit that evidence to the public, to excite emulation in virtuous purſuits, and to induce ſpectators to go and do ſo likewiſe, nothing ſeems more conducive than a monument to Howard.

The preſent moment, during his abſence in Turkey, is the moſt proper to accompliſh ſuch a deſign. With goodneſs

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of heart he unites exemplary humility; and a perfection of mind rarely equalled is veiled by a modeſty that ſhuns praiſe and adulation; but the public applauſe which is due to great and virtuous actions cannot be ungrateful to the god-like breaſt of Howard.

Suppoſe therefore the firſt *five* perſons who ſubſcribe *ten guineas* each, or upwards, be appointed a *committee* to carry ſuch a deſign into execution; which *committee* may be afterwards augmented, by ſelecting from the ſubſcribers at large ſuch perſons whoſe taſte and abilities may further aſſiſt in *deſigning a monument to Howard.*"

The ſubſcriptions on Aug. 28. amounted to 651 l.

Subſcriptions are received at London, by Meſſrs R. and F. Goſling, bankers; Meſſrs Mildred, Maſterman, and Walker, bankers; Meſſrs Langſtons, and Towgoods, and Amory, bankers; Dr Lettſom; Mr J. Robſon, bookſeller; and Mr J. Nichols. The committee for the ſtatue of Mr Howard and Howardian fund for priſon charities and reforms, have been enabled, in conſequence of the liberal countenance of the public, to fund 500 l. three per cents. which will continue as a perpetual fund appropriated to priſon charities.

*To the* HOWARDIAN COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN, *Glaſgow, Aug.* 20.

IN conſequence of your repreſentations in the London prints, a ſubſcription-paper was lately laid upon the table of the Tontine coffee-room here, with the following preamble: "A ſubſcription having been begun in England, for erecting a ſtatue and monument to the honour of John Howard, Eſq; on account of the extraordinary exertions he has made, and is ſtill employed in making, for alleviating the miſeries of perſons confined in priſons and dungeons; we, inhabitants of this city, promiſe to pay the ſums annexed to our reſpective ſubſcriptions, for defraying a part of the neceſſary expence, and as a ſmall teſtimony of our high veneration for ſuch uncommon merit."—The ſum already ſubſcribed is 74 guineas.

We ſhall be glad to find that the liberal deſign you have in view meets with a general concurrence, and to ſee a monument, ſuitable to the merits of a perſon ſo truly excellent, riſe out of the hearts of the whole nation. At the deſire of the gentlemen ſubſcribing, I give you this information; and have the honour to be, &c. THOMAS REID.

*On the Variation of the Compaſs.*

AN ingenious gentleman, (Mr Harding, of Meath-ſtreet, Dublin), ſays, the variation of the Magnetic Needle, or as it is more frequently termed, the variation of the Compaſs, ſo eſſential in ſurveying and navigation, has not been announced here ſince the 1772, that he knows of, at which time it was ſaid to be 23 deg. 30 min. Weſt. This month (May) he ſays he has taken a mean of the variation reſulting from 19 apirs of azimuths, not one of which differed from another more than 16 minutes, and a pair of amplitudes that made it correſpond with two of them to one minute, whereby he finds it to be preciſely 26 deg. 21 min. weſt, having increaſed nearly 3 degrees ſince the year above mentioned. This unaccountable attractive virtue (whether reſident in the atmoſphere or in the earth is equally uncertain) has engaged the attention of many ſince the invention of the Mariner's compaſs, but in no particular ſo much as its wonderful change of poſition, which appears to be as uniform as any other motion of the ſolar ſyſtem, in any one place, but as variable (as to its quantity) as one place is remote from another. We are well informed that Mr Burrows obſerved it at London in the year 1580 to be 11 deg. 15 min. eaſt, and Mr Gunter in 1622 found it to be 6 degrees eaſt. Mr Gillibrand in 1634 obſerved it 4 deg. 5 min. eaſt. In 1657, there was no variation, but ſince that time, it has proceeded gradually weſtward; ſo that in 1722, Mr Graham found it, by ſundry nice experiments, to be no leſs than 14 deg. 13 min. weſt. In this country, it is probable, it was not very different, and it is certain it has been ſince increaſing weſtward in the ſame proportion here; every circumnavigator perceiving it to differ in very diſtant places. Capt. Cook, if we recollect well, never met with *two* where it was preciſely the ſame, and only *one* in the great South Sea where there was no variation at all. Theſe circumſtances are very ſingular and ſurpriſing, but not more ſo than that its local increaſe (or decreaſe) is uniform, which muſt be admitted from a compariſon of its increaſe with the preceding times of obſervation; for inſtance, in 1657, there was no variation; and in 1772, it was 14 deg. 13 min. weſt, the difference of time is 65 years. Since the firſt period 128 years have elapſed, and the variation has increaſed in the proportion of one to the other; and by comparing the increaſe between the years 1772 and 1786, it will appear to be the ſame, viz. about 13 minutes a-year. It muſt not, however, be inferred that it will conſtantly veer weſtward; ſuch a motion would cauſe an entire change of the magnetic poles; but whether, or when it will ſtop and return eaſtward, is not at preſent within the compaſs of any calculation that our correſpondent knows of.

Mr

## *Mr* HASTINGS's *Defence continued*,

[p. 329.]

I Now proceed to anſwer the objections which have been urged againſt the propriety of this undertaking. Theſe may be reduced to the following heads:

1. That it was contrary to the expreſs, peremptory, and repeated orders of the Company.

2. That it was contrary to the repeated declarations and promiſes of the Board.

3. That it was unjuſt.

4. That it expoſed the Company to the hazard of an indefinite or an endleſs war.

5. That it might have involved the Company in a war with the Marattas, and may ſtill draw on us their future reſentment.

6. That by a removal of the third part of the whole military eſtabliſhment to ſo great a diſtance, our own provinces were expoſed to danger.

7. That by aggrandizing the Vizier, it might render him a dangerous neighbour, and deprive the Company of the benefits of his alliance.

8. That it was reſolved on precipitately, without a formal treaty, the conditions of it appearing only in a letter from the Vizier, where they are looſely expreſſed, and liable to evaſion.

9. That the condition which the Vizier expreſſes, that the brigade ſhould never depart without his permiſſion, was an inſtance of arrogance in him, and of an unbecoming ſubmiſſion in the late adminiſtration, and might prove the cauſe of their being detained for ever.

In the above articles, I have not confined myſelf to the public records, but have endeavoured to collect the ſubſtance of all that I have ſeen or heard upon this ſide of the argument, and have choſen to clothe it in my own language; that which I have found prepared for me, not being, in every inſtance, ſuch as I allow myſelf to uſe, even in retaliation of perſonal injuries; much leſs in application to meaſures which immediately regard myſelf.

I ſhall reply ſeparately to each.

Firſt. I have read over with great attention all the letters which have been received from the Honourable Court of Directors ſince the year 1769, and long ago abſtracted all the paragraphs written within that period upon the ſubject of the Company's political concerns, thoſe having been given me for my ſpecial guidance in my negotiations with the Vizier the laſt year at Benares.

I find nothing contained in any of theſe which expreſsly applies to the caſe in queſtion. I meet with injunctions to avoid new connections.

"To endeavour to keep peace in Bengal and with the neighbouring powers, and to confine our views to the ſecurity and tranquillity of Bengal; not to acquire farther poſſeſſions, but to advert to the good management of thoſe which we have; to incline to thoſe few chiefs of Indoſtan, who are in a condition to ſtruggle with the Marattas; to defend the King's perſon, and the diſtricts of Corah and Allahabad, which is mentioned as an exception to their limited plan; to make known to the powers of India, that it is by no means the intention of the Company to encroach upon their neighbours, or to acquire an extenſion of dominion by conqueſt; that they regard with a jealous eye the increaſing power of the Marattas; and that it would be bad policy to take part in any operations, which might weaken the few remaining chiefs who are in a condition to oppoſe their encroachments."

But the following extracts are ſo pointedly appoſite to the ſubject, that I ſhall take the liberty to quote them at large.

"It is with the moſt ſerious concern we learn from your late advices, that the incurſions of the Marattas had ſpread ſuch a terror and deſpondence into the minds of thoſe powers which were the remoter barrier of our poſſeſſions, that the irreſolution and timidity of the moſt potent of them have given riſe to ſuch ſucceſſes, as have encouraged the Marattas to invade the dominions of the King, and lay claim to part of the territories of Sujah Dowla.

But the conduct of the Rohillas and Jauts is rather a matter of concern than ſurpriſe to us, as the King and Sujah Dowla neglected that occaſion to unite with thoſe powers effectually to repel the common diſturbers of the empire, and confine them within the limits of their former poſſeſſions.

To whatever cauſes this general timidity and ſupineneſs may have been owing, we find ourſelves equally affected, and the tranquillity of the provinces endangered thereby; but as the projects of the King, or the conduct of the Vizier, are at preſent too myſterious for us to

decide on the motives of their inactivity, and as we know not what alliances may be formed to juſtify us in carrying our arms beyond the bounds of their dominions, we are prevented from propoſing any preciſe plan for your guidance in this reſpect; but ſhould your ſubſequent advices enable us to form a more certain judgement of the expediency of departing from the plan we have laid down, we ſhould communicate to you, by ſome early conveyance, how far we may be diſpoſed to carry our arms beyond the bounds of the provinces or territories of our allies, and become the parties in an offenſive war.

In the mean time, we truſt your ſole objects will be the ſecurity of our poſſeſſions, and thoſe of the powers with whom we are connected both by treaty and intereſt; and as this appears to have been the guide of your conduct upon the Marattas invading the province of Corah, we with pleaſure approve the meaſures you have taken for defending the dominions of the King and Vizier from their inroads and depredations; more eſpecially, as thoſe meaſures are not only juſtified by neceſſity, but are within the line which we have preſcribed for your conduct in ſuch a conjuncture."

"The line of neutrality is ſtill recommended, but the Board are authoriſed to depart from it whenever the intereſts of the Company ſhall be endangered, or ſhall materially require it."

The directions promiſed us in the letter of the 28th of Auguſt 1771, having never yet been ſent us, nor have we ſince received any farther lights to guide us on this important ſubject, which I preſume to place to the account of the troubles which have embarraſſed the Company at home.

From the above quotations, and the conſiſtency which ſtrongly marks all the orders on this ſubject, I apprehend it will clearly appear, that the principle primarily inſiſted on by the Honourable Court of Directors, reſpecting their political and military operations, was to avoid the extenſion of territory, and this we have never attempted.

The prohibition of military expeditions, undertaken beyond the preſcribed bounds of their own provinces, and thoſe of their allies, on prudential and cautionary motives, or other cauſes, independent of territorial acquiſitions, is only to be inferred from the tenor and tendency of their reaſonings on the former ſubject.

It is evident, that it was not from inattention that their orders never expreſſed a prohibition of this kind, but that they rather avoided it from a conviction that it might be ſometimes neceſſary, and becauſe it would have been difficult to mark the limitations of it.

This concluſion I draw, not only from the two laſt paragraphs of their orders, which I have quoted at length, and which were dictated by the experience of paſt advices, and a more intimate conſideration of the ſubject, but even from their orders ſo far back as the 30th of June 1769; in which, having declared againſt an extenſion of poſſeſſions in the firſt paragraph, they add in the third their "opinion, that the moſt prudent ſyſtem they could purſue, and the moſt likely to be attended with a permanent ſecurity to the provinces, would be to *incline* to thoſe chiefs of Indoſtan who yet preſerve an independence of the Maratta power, and are in a condition to ſtruggle with them."

But in the two laſt of the above quotations there is no occaſion of logical ſurmiſes to diſcover the intentions of the Honourable Court of Directors; they tell us plainly, that it is their wiſh "to confine their views to the ſecurity of their own poſſeſſions, and thoſe of their allies; but that they foreſee the neceſſity, in certain caſes, of carrying their arms beyond thoſe bounds, and of becoming parties in an offenſive war;" and they promiſe us an early communication of their inſtructions with regard to the lengths to which they will allow this doctrine to be extended. In their letter to the Preſidency of Fort St George, they authoriſe them, in expreſs terms, "to obſerve no longer the neutrality ſo heartily wiſhed for by them, in caſe they ſhould judge it neceſſary for their intereſts to depart from it." And it is not to be ſuppoſed that the Court of Directors would recommend one line of conduct for their government of Fort St George, and an oppoſite one for Bengal; much leſs that they would admit of ſuch a deviation from their former pacific plan on merely political motives, attended with an heavy expence, and yet prohibit it under circumſtances which, in addition to the ſame motives, have every conſideration of œconomy to recommend it, with the proſpect of an increaſe to their finances,

finances, at a time when their diſtreſſes, both at home and abroad, ſo urgently required ſuch an increaſe, and their moſt peremptory commands (as I have already obſerved) rendered it the firſt object of our attention.

I preſume to affirm, both for myſelf and the other members of the late Council, that no period in the Company's annals has been more evidently characteriſed by an exact ſubmiſſion to their commands, than that in which I have had the honour to preſide in the adminiſtration; and for the truth of this I dare appeal to the Honourable Court of Directors. But in caſes to which their commands do not ſpecially apply, to adopt ſuch meaſures as at the ſame time approach neareſt to the ſpirit of their general inſtructions, and tend moſt to the advancement of their intereſts, is the faireſt teſt both of our obedience and fidelity.

We might have ſuffered the Marattas, under cover of the King's grant, to take poſſeſſion of Corah and Allahabad, to have allied themſelves to the Rohillas, or eſtabliſhed themſelves in that territory, and lain with their armies unmoleſted on the borders of the open country of our ally, the Vizier, till they had completed every preparation for invading it. Such a forbearance might, perhaps, have been vindicated by the plea, that the Company had promiſed, at the diſtance of two years preceding it, to furniſh us with their inſtructions for a different conduct; and that wanting thoſe inſtructions, we took for our rule the lateſt orders on the ſubject, which enjoined us to confine our views to the bare ſecurity of our own poſſeſſions, and thoſe of our allies. This might have been a ſure way to guard our characters againſt legal imputation, although, in fact, it would have been inconſiſtent with the ſecurity required. But it is not by ſuch cold and prudential cautions that the Britiſh name has acquired ſuch a luſtre in India, nor that the Britiſh empire in Bengal is likely to be perpetuated; neither is this the conduct which the Company demands of us; their orders are informed by a more liberal ſpirit, and allow, in ſuch caſes as are not reducible to fixed and invariable poſitions, a diſcretional latitude for the zeal of their ſervants to exert itſelf for their ſecurity. I cannot better illuſtrate this, than by the following extract of their general letter, dated the 30th of June, 1769, paragraph 5. "We eſteem ourſelves bound by treaty to protect the King's perſon, and to ſecure him the poſſeſſion of the Corah and Allahabad diſtricts. When we wrote the 11th of November 1768, we apprehended the conſequences of keeping the brigade at Allahabad would be creating in Sujah Dowla a jealouſy that would involve us in freſh troubles, having at that time no cauſe to eſteem him an enemy; but, impreſſed as you were with an opinion of his hoſtile intentions and growing ſtrength, at the time of the diſpatch of the Valentine, we ſhall not blame your caution for deferring the execution of our orders for its removal; nor ſhall we at this time attempt to give poſitive directions for your conduct, which in ſuch critical caſes ought ſeldom to be done, and in which the ſituation of affairs may be varied by unforeſeen events at the very moment we are writing; but having given you, with as much preciſion as poſſible, a general view of the ſyſtem by which we wiſh to have our affairs regulated, we muſt leave it to you to improve to the utmoſt of your power, every opportunity of drawing towards that point; and whenever you think yourſelves obliged, for our ſecurity, upon emergent occaſions, to adopt meaſures of a contrary tendency, you are to give us very full reaſons for ſuch a deviation, and endeavour to return to the path we have marked out as ſoon as circumſtances will admit."

2. The ſecond objection is partly true. The Board have repeatedly declared, in their general letters to the Court of Directors, their intentions to adhere to the defenſive plan recommended to them, and to confine their military operations within the limits of the Vizier's territories; and ſuch were their determinations when thoſe letters were written; but at thoſe times they had not fully experienced the inconveniencies which attended our engagements with the Vizier in the proſecution of that ſyſtem, nor had the remedy occurred which ſince preſented itſelf, in the conditions offered for proſecuting the Rohilla enterprize, and which has been ſucceſsfully applied. Our treaty of alliance obliged us to ſupport the Vizier, when his poſſeſſions were threatened with invaſion, at an heavy increaſed military expence, and the exportation of our currency with our troops. For three ſucceſſive years theſe inconveniencies had recurred, and it was impoſſible to ſay how often they might recur.

At

At laſt an occaſion took place, when, by a ſlight deviation from the defenſive plan, our alliance with the Vizier might be converted into ſolid advantages; the employment of our troops made to ſave near a third part of our military expences, and the ſucceſs of their operations to bring a large flow of currency, not only into the Company's territories, but into their treaſury; in effect, the very ſame reaſons which before urged us to ſhun every military expedition, namely, the expence attending it, and the exportation of our currency, now operated in the contrary direction, and recommended the employment of our army for the purpoſes of reducing our expences, and adding to our currency.

The preceding argument reſpects only the general ſubject of foreign expeditions. It has been urged alſo, as an argument againſt the particular caſe in queſtion, that the Board, when they adopted the meaſure of the Rohilla war, were themſelves convinced of the impropriety of it, from the declaration made by them repeatedly, in their letters to the Court of Directors, of their wiſh and hope that it might not take place.

Upon this I beg leave to offer the following reflections:

A conſiſtency of meaſures is difficult to be preſerved among a body of men, becauſe an accidental majority may occaſionally decide for contrary reſolutions; yet ſuch a caſe has never happened at our Board. A conſiſtency of opinions is not to be expected: the propoſition for the Rohilla war, after having paſſed the Select Committee, was debated for three ſucceſſive days in council, in which the Board met, as I recollect, both morning and evening to diſcuſs it; no two members agreed exactly in opinion, and it was difficult to reconcile them; at laſt they came to a final agreement, to leave it to me to accommodate my own as nearly as I could to the collective ſenſe of the whole; which was done with much management; and the propoſition was agreed to in the manner in which it ſtands in conſultation 26th Nov. 1773.

My ſentiments were the ſame invariably from the beginning, as will be ſeen from my report to the board of my proceedings at Benares, and my minute entered in the conſultation above referred to. Private letters are not commonly admiſſible as authorities; but on this occaſion I cannot produce a ſtronger, both of my own fixed opinion from the firſt movement of this propoſition, and of the apprehenſion which influenced the Board, and, I confeſs myſelf alſo againſt it, than in the following extract of a letter, which I wrote to a gentleman in the direction by the firſt diſpatch after my return to Benares:—"I was glad to be freed from the Rohilla expedition, becauſe I was doubtful of the judgement which would have been paſſed upon it at home, where I ſee too much ſtreſs laid upon general maxims, and too little attention given to the circumſtances which require an exception to be made from them. Beſides this, an opinion ſtill prevails of the Vizier's great power, and his treacherous deſigns againſt us; and I cannot expect that my word ſhould be taken as a proof of their non exiſtence: on the other hand, the abſence of the Marattas, and the weak ſtate of the Rohillas, promiſed an eaſy conqueſt of them; and I own, that ſuch was my idea of the Company's diſtreſs at home, added to my knowledge of their wants abroad, that I ſhould have been glad of any occaſion to employ their forces, which ſaves ſo much of their pay and expences."

When the meaſure was determined upon, and we had come to a general agreement, I was averſe to introduce any new ſubject of debate, and therefore eaſily acquieſced in the expreſſion of a wiſh entertained by the Board, which might be conſtrued as inconſiſtent with the reſolution we had taken. My ſentiments of the propriety of the expedition had undergone no change: but I will not deny, that I felt myſelf influenced by the ſame fears which operated in the other members of the Council, that the propriety of the meaſure might not be ſeen in the ſame light by our conſtituents; which we knew, from the temper of the times, might not only draw upon us their ſevere reſentment, but aggravate the load of popular odium which has of late fallen on their ſervants; and, if I miſtake not, theſe reaſons are aſſigned in expreſs terms upon our proceedings.

3. The engagements between the Vizier and the Rohillas, which have been already quoted, ſufficiently evince the juſtice of the attack upon them. They agreed to make him an acknowledgement of forty lacks of rupees upon certain conditions—he performed thoſe conditions; and they refuſed payment of the money they had promiſed.

4. No

4. No political tranſaction can be mathematically demonſtrated to be totally free from danger. The probable advantages muſt be weighed againſt the probable diſadvantages: when the preſent meaſure was undertaken, there was every reaſon to expect that it would be ſpeedily brought to an happy concluſion; and the event has proved that our expectations were well grounded.

5. The Marattas did not poſſeſs, nor had any claim upon any part of the Rohilla country on the north of the Ganges, when we undertook to aſſiſt the Vizier in the conqueſt of it. They might with much more reaſon have attacked us for oppoſing them in their deſigns on the Corah diſtricts, of which they had obtained a grant from the King; but, in fact, a timid conduct would have been more likely to involve us in a war with them, than either of theſe meaſures.

Had they been allowed to ſubdue the Corah diſtrict and the country of the Rohillas, the Vizier's territory would have been open to their incurſions; their numerous horſe might have plundered it, in ſpite of the efforts of our infantry, and their continued ravages might have obliged him to come to an accommodation with them, as was once apprehended, on terms which would have afforded them an eaſy entrance into our own provinces. In ſhort, we are much better ſecured againſt their attacks than we otherwiſe ſhould have been; and the better we are ſecured, the leſs will they be diſpoſed to attack us.

6. In reply to this objection, I will in the firſt place affirm, that, merely for the defence of our own provinces, two brigades upon the preſent eſtabliſhment are ſufficient; a third is neceſſary to add to our influence amongſt the powers of Indoſtan, to ſupport our alliance with the Vizier, and to anſwer other exigencies which may happen at a more remote period of time. Upon the late occaſion, when the Rohilla expedition was undertaken, our apprehenſions of an invaſion from the French had entirely ceaſed; the diſſentions among the Marattas fully employed them at home, and are mentioned among the ſecondary inducements in favour of the undertaking; there was no other enemy from whom we could have the leaſt apprehenſion of danger. Such was the occaſion to be embraced for effecting our purpoſe, by a temporary employment of a third part of our forces; and, under ſuch circumſtances, was a great and manifeſt advantage; but when the ſtipulated acquiſition of forty lacks, and the political advantages reſulting from the meaſure, are ſuperadded, the viſionary idea of danger, which did not exiſt even in imagination at the time the expedition was undertaken, can have no weight as an objection; eſpecially as, from our own knowledge of the open and defenceleſs ſtate of the Rohilla country, we were morally certain that the undertaking would ſoon be brought to an iſſue. By our ancient treaty with the Vizier, we are bound to aſſiſt him with our forces within his paternal dominions; and the diſtance between their borders, and the remoteſt part to which our troops have marched, is only two hundred miles. I will only add, that ſo long as no immediate danger threatens our own provinces, it is my earneſt wiſh that one of our three brigades might conſtantly be employed with the Vizier, as well to ſave ſo large a proportion of expence to the Company, as to prevent the ill conſequences of total inactivity to our army.

7. The addition of territory acquired by the Vizier, inſtead of raiſing him to be a dangerous neighbour, ſerves to render him more dependent upon us than before; as he has more occaſion for our aſſiſtance to enable him to maintain it, and to ſupport him againſt the claims of other powers. If his increaſe of wealth be an object of jealouſy, let it be conſidered how largely the Company ſhare in it. From September 1773 to 1775 the ſums we have to receive from him, by our late engagements, amount to one hundred and thirty lacks of rupees.

8. I have already remarked, that the firſt propoſition for the Rohilla war was made by the Vizier, in a letter which I received from him in June 1773; that it was employed afterwards in the negotiations at Benares, as an inſtrument for winning his conſent to the payment of the full expences of the troops employed in his ſervice; and that it was not finally reſolved on till the 26th of November, after the moſt ample diſcuſſion in the Select Committee and in the Council; it was not therefore precipitately reſolved on. It is true, that no formal treaty was executed for the conditions on which we were to aſſiſt the Vizier; nor did the occaſion, which was only temporary, require it. The multiplication of treaties weakens their efficacy, and therefore they ſhould be reſerved only for very important and permanent obligations. The form which was

dictated to the Vizier for the letter which was to deſcribe the conditions of this engagement, it is true, is not of itſelf ſufficiently clear; but it is explained by my letter which accompanied it, and the reference therein made to the conditions which had been formerly propoſed at Benares, as they ſtood in the three firſt articles of the draft, which had been prepared for the treaty before the Rohilla expedition was ſuſpended.

9. It was neither arrogant nor unreaſonable in the Vizier to require, that ſince his entire dependence for the ſucceſs of the enterprize which he had projected, was on the brigade of the Company's forces, the brigade ſhould not abandon him while he was engaged in it, nor while the iſſue of it remained incomplete: nor can I deviſe any other condition which would have removed his apprehenſions. If the Board judged the propoſition reaſonable, it certainly was not unbecoming in them to aſſent to it. It remains, therefore, to examine, whether it was unreaſonable, and whether this power granted to the Vizier was liable to danger or inconvenience.

I have already ſhewn, that the removal of the brigade to ſuch a diſtance would not prove of danger to our own provinces, becauſe it was not wanted for their defence; that it would be productive of no inconvenience, becauſe it occaſioned an entire ſuſpenſion of the Company's payments during its employment. It is not to be denied, that there are poſſible caſes, in which it may be wanted for the protection of Bengal; but theſe are out of the reach of all probability, and too remote to be quoted as an objection to the preſent engagement.

I am not apprehenſive that the Vizier will inſiſt on keeping the brigade continually with him; my fears are, that he may diſmiſs it; as there is every reaſon to wiſh its continuance with him, and none for its recall. When the brigade was formerly employed with the Vizier, and the ſhare of its monthly expences defrayed by him was only 30,000, and afterwards 1,015,000 rupees per month, he never ſhewed any earneſtneſs for its continuance with him beyond the duration of the particular ſervice for which it had been wanted, but was ever ready to propoſe its return; it is not likely, therefore, that he ſhould be more ſolicitous now for its perpetual reſidence in his country, at an expence to him of twenty-five lacks a-year, which he muſt pay, and which his income, even with the late additions to it, can barely afford.

He knows, that whenever he ſhall require the preſence of the brigade, it will be for our intereſt to grant it; and he will therefore part with it, when his own occaſions, which in this inſtance muſt be confined to the defence of his own dominions, no longer require it, that the charge of its maintenance may be ſhifted from his account to the Company's; and that he may be ſubject to that burden only when he is an immediate gainer by it. This may ſuffice to ſhew the little riſk we ran, had we abſolutely engaged the brigade to him as long as he might chooſe to retain it: but in the preſent caſe (as I have already explained in the preceding article) it was underſtood by both parties, and indeed is inſeparable from the nature of the engagement, and the original conditions of our mutual alliance, that we might recal it, if required, for our own protection, not only without any imputation of breach of faith, but (unleſs it was done in ſo precipitate a manner as to defeat the purpoſe of the expedition) even without affording him a pretext for refuſing the payment of the forty lacks.

I hope and truſt, that I have now proved to this Honourable Houſe, that the Rohilla war was not prohibited but authoriſed by the Court of Directors; that it originated in meaſures which were purely defenſive, and which were in train before my acceſſion to the government; that my ſhare of it was warranted by the ſtricteſt juſtice, in retaliation of groſs perfidy and violation of faith; that it was undertaken with every well grounded aſſurance of ſucceſs, and terminated in great and permanent advantages to the Eaſt-India Company.

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*ANECDOTE.*

IN the year 1478, George Neville, Duke of Bedford, was, by a petition from the Houſe of Lords, publicly degraded by an act of parliament, and his titles taken from him. The charge againſt him was, that having, by gambling and other infamous practices, loſt his fortune, he had not ſufficient income wherewith to ſupport his dignity, by which the credit of the peerage was diſgraced. The repreſentation was firſt made to King Edward IV. who directed the means to be purſued for his ejection out of the Upper Houſe of Parliament. The diſgraced Duke went into France, where he died in the moſt miſerable manner ſoon after.

PAR-

PARLIAMENT. [p. 335.]

THE Commons, May 4. being in a committee on the national debt bill, Mr Pitt ſaid, that parliament could not too punctiliouſly adhere to its engagements with thoſe, who, relying on the public faith, had advanced their money in the moment of national emergency. It was his intention, therefore, in every ſtep he ſhould take relative to the funds, whether to redeem them, or alter the day of payment of the dividends, to proceed with the moſt ſcrupulous regard to the national engagements, and to the wiſhes of the ſtock-holders. As the bill ſtood, he obſerved, it was defective in one particular, which he would therefore propoſe to amend. In its preſent ſtate, the commiſſioners, who were to be intruſted with the management of the million ſurplus, might, on giving one month's notice, redeem ſtock as far as 250,000 l. per quarter would allow; but this he found would claſh with the letter and ſpirit of ſome of the public bargains; for when ſtock was to be redeemed at par, it had been agreed that more than a month's notice ſhould be given to the holders of the ſtock ſo to be redeemed: he therefore moved, "that whenever the commiſſioners ſhould have it in contemplation to pay off any ſtock at par, they ſhould be directed and governed in their proceedings on that occaſion by ſpecial acts of parliament to be paſſed for the purpoſe." But as this related only to the paying off at par, the commiſſioners would be at liberty, under the preſent bill, to redeem ſtock under par at a month's notice. He then moved, that the clauſe to which he alluded in the bill ſhould be amended, in order to carry into effect the regulation he had juſt mentioned.

Sir Grey Cooper approved of the amendment, as without it the object of the bill would have been defeated. Of all the public loans, there were two in particular that had been negotiated under an agreement which could not poſſibly be fulfilled under this bill in its preſent form: for, with reſpect to one, it had been agreed, that, whenever parliament ſhould reſolve to redeem the debt then contracted, *twelve months* notice ſhould be given to the creditors of ſuch intention; and that no leſs than 500,000 l. ſhould be paid off at a time. With reſpect to the ſecond loan, the ſum to be paid off was the ſame, but the notice to be given was fixed at ſix months only.

Mr Fox ſpoke a few words, to which Mr Pitt replied; after which the amendment was put and carried; the blanks were filled up, and the Houſe was reſumed.

Mr Sheridan then moved ſeverally the reſolutions he had read as part of his ſpeech, p. 333.

Mr Pitt ſaid, ſome of them were void of foundation in truth, one or two were truiſms, and the others ſo doubtful, or ambiguouſly worded, that he did not like to ſay aye or no to them. To the firſt, therefore, he would give a direct negative, to the ſecond he would give his ſupport, and upon the laſt he would move the previous queſtion. Thoſe which were oppoſed directly were rejected; two paſſed in the affirmative, and two others were loſt by the previous queſtion.

Mr Sheridan ſaid, he had attained the object he had in view, which was, that they might be recorded in the journals of the Houſe.

On May 8. the report of this bill was brought up and read, and a converſation enſued, in which the only object that all appeared to have in view, was, moſt ſcrupulouſly to guard againſt any meaſure that might bear even the ſemblance of a deviation from the ſtrict letter of the engagements made with the public creditors.—The further conſideration was put off till the 12th, when,

Mr Pulteney propoſed a clauſe which would make it very difficult for future parliaments to defeat the operation of the bill, as it would make it neceſſary that they ſhould give thoſe occaſional directions to the commiſſioners, relative to the redemption of capital ſtock *above* par, without which they could not, under the laws now in being, redeem any ſuch ſtock. The clauſe was, that in caſe parliament ſhould neglect, for a certain time, to give thoſe directions, the commiſſioners ſhould be empowered to redeem ſtock *above* par, without any directions; as the redemption muſt take place, in ſuch a caſe, at a great loſs to the public, it was reaſonable to preſume that this clauſe would oblige miniſters to propoſe, as occaſion required, that the proper directions ſhould, from time to time, be given to the commiſſioners. The clauſe, having been twice read, was admitted into the bill.

Mr Fox then propoſed another clauſe, which was, that the commiſſioners might be permitted to ſubſcribe ſuch money as ſhould be in their hands to any future

public loan; this, he thought, would prevent ſucceeding miniſters from diverting this fund in time of war from the purpoſes for which it was about to be inſtituted, as they would have the full benefit of this money in the loan; and the public would be equally benefited, in as much as this mode would keep down *pro tanto* the accumulation of the national debt. He added other forcible reaſons, and concluded with ſaying, that though the public ſhould be the lender on thoſe occaſions, a fund ſhould be eſtabliſhed to pay the intereſt of what ſhould be thus advanced.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was happy in being able perfectly to concur with the Right Hon. Gentleman; and hoped that the unanimity which animated all parties on this ſubject, would be a kind of pledge that it would be held as ſacred by poſterity as it was by the preſent generation, when there appeared no other emulation among the moſt diſcordant parties, than who ſhould be moſt forward to ſupport the public credit. The clauſe was then brought up, and agreed to.

Mr Dempſter moved ſeveral clauſes, which were rejected.—The bill was read a third time, on the 15th, and paſſed *nem. con.*

In the Houſe of Lords, May 22. the order of the day was read, for taking into conſideration the bill for appropriating one million annually for the extinction of the national debt.

Lord Loughborough hoped that the bill would be printed for the uſe of their Lordſhips. Being informed, however, by Lord Bathurſt, that it was contrary to the cuſtom of the Houſe to print a bill of that nature, the queſtion on the motion was put, and it was agreed that the bill ſhould be committed on Thurſday next.

Earl Stanhope, in conſequence of their Lordſhips ſummons on the preſent buſineſs, though the future diſcuſſion of it was to be poſtponed to Thurſday, could not help ſtating his objections to the plan; that no meaſure had been adopted, or was likely to be adopted, in order to ſecure its permanency, and conſequently that effect which it was intended to produce. He reaſoned with reſpect to the perfection of his own ſyſtem in this point of view, and went into a general detail of it. The plan he had laid down was exempt from thoſe objections which naturally roſe from the ſcheme in agitation, relative to the temptation that ambitious miniſters would lie under, of availing themſelves of a number of thoſe reliefs, and of various pecuniary reſources which would naturally accrue in the courſe of a few years from its adoption. Every means ought therefore to be employed to prevent this evil. For this purpoſe he ſaw only one mode of ſecurity, which was ſo to connect the public creditor with the ſtate, as to render it impracticable. Having made a motion to this effect,

Lord Camelford reſiſted its being adopted in the preſent ſtage of the buſineſs, as a reſolution of the Houſe.

Lord Sydney expreſſed many obligations to the noble Earl (Stanhope), but was for moving the previous queſtion.

Lord Loughborough hoped the conſideration of the preſent motion might be poſtponed to ſome other occaſion.

The Duke of Richmond oppoſed the legiſlature adopting any permanent ſyſtem as unconſtitutional, and as tending to deprive future legiſlatures of their right.

Lord Stormont was for a ſubſequent diſcuſſion of the reſolution.

Earl Stanhope having little hopes of carrying his motion on any ſubſequent day, ſaid, that he wiſhed it to ſtand on the journals of the Houſe. Were the previous queſtion put on it, he ſhould not obtain the object.

The queſtion was then put on the original motion, and it was, without a diviſion, negatived.

The Duke of Richmond moved, that there ſhould be laid before the Houſe, a copy of the report of the Select Committee of the Houſe of Commons, which motion was agreed to. And

On May 23. the Lords ſent a meſſage to the Commons, intimating that they wiſhed to be in poſſeſſion of the report of the Select Committee, in order more clearly to diſcuſs the merits of the bill for appropriating certain ſums towards the diminution or diſcharge of the national debt. The Speaker informed the meſſengers, that an anſwer would be ſent to-morrow or next day. Mr Pitt moved, that the Houſe ſhould take the meſſage into conſideration to-morrow. Agreed to.

Accordingly, on the 24th, the meſſage being read, a motion was made, "that a meſſage be ſent to the Lords, to acquaint their Lordſhips, that the Commons have taken their Lordſhips meſſage of Tueſday, relating to the bill for veſting certain ſums in commiſſioners towards diſcharging

charging the national debt, into conſideration; but conceive that it has not been the practice of parliament, for either Houſe to deſire of the other the information on which they have proceeded in paſſing any bill, except where ſuch information has related to facts ſtated in ſuch bill as the ground and foundation thereof; and that the Commons think this reaſon ſufficient for not giving, at this time, any further anſwer to their Lordſhips meſſage."

Mr Fox did not approve of an anſwer in ſuch general terms; he argued, that their Lordſhips, who were to confirm by their aſſent the funding bill, ſhould, in order to guide their deciſions, be furniſhed with matter to convince them that the public means were adequate to ſupport this meaſure; and if they did not ſee the report of the Committee upon which this matter was grounded, they had no poſitive proof before them, whether the public were equal, or not, to the propoſed meaſure.

Mr Grenville made ſome obſervations on the mode by which the public would be enabled to ſupport this ſyſtem in future, and then the motion was aſſented to by the Houſe.

On May 25. the above anſwer from the Commons to their Lordſhips being read, Lord Loughborough roſe, and confeſſed his ſurpriſe at the terms in which it was conceived. Noble Lords, high in office, had agreed to the requeſt made to the other Houſe, for the grounds on which the bill before their Lordſhips was founded, and this requeſt had been denied in terms not altogether the moſt flattering to their Lordſhips dignity. He ſhould have expected that a Committee might have been choſen, and a conference had, between the Houſes; but no ſuch circumſtance had taken place. His Lordſhip could not tell how other noble Lords felt upon the occaſion, but he hoped their conſequence was not ſo loſt in the legiſlature as to be prevented from taking ſome ſtep that might at leaſt attempt to ſupport the dignity of that Houſe.

Earl Bathurſt left the woolſack, and declared that he, as an individual member of that Houſe, had oppoſed the original meſſage. He had done every thing in his power to prevent its paſſing, from a ſenſe of its impropriety. When the ſinking-fund bill paſſed in the reign of Geo. I. the Commons proceeded in the ſame manner. It was unparliamentary to require any reaſons for a money bill, unleſs the ſame were expreſſed in the preamble. For theſe reaſons he ſhould move the order of the day.

Lord Stormont was ſorry, that the noble Lords who had ſuffered the motion to paſs, were abſent (Duke of Richmond, and Lord Sydney). He could not attribute their abſence to deſign, but it ſurely bore a very extraordinary appearance.

Lord Sydney made an apology for his abſence, which he ſaid was upon buſineſs of neceſſity. With reſpect to entering into any debate on the meſſage, it was at once needleſs and fruitleſs. He had, it was true, given his ſilent vote for the former meſſage on Tueſday; but if it was incompatible with parliamentary uſage to have it complied with, he ſaw no reaſon for endeavouring to create a diſſention between the two Houſes. The bill before the Houſe was a money bill, and it was inconſiſtent with the rules of the Houſe of Commons to give any reaſons for having ſent it up to that Houſe, where it muſt either be approved of *in toto*, or rejected.

Lord Loughborough denied that it was ſimply a money bill, under the idea of the Commons *giving and granting* to his Majeſty, if that was the noble Lord's idea. (Lord Sydney nodded aſſent). It was merely an *appropriation* of money already raiſed upon the ſubject.

Lord Stormont charged the noble Secretary with being the author of the dilemma into which the Houſe was drawn, inaſmuch as he muſt have known before the vote paſſed, what the anſwer would contain.

Lord Sydney explained, that in caſe of a deficiency in the taxes, the Commons were obliged to make it good, and therefore it was in effect ſimply a money bill.

Lord Loughborough replied, that, taking it upon the noble Lord's own grounds, ſhould there be any deficiency, new taxes muſt be raiſed, and thoſe taxes muſt be raiſed by a new act of parliament; now he wiſhed to know where the noble Secretary derived his authority for pledging parliament by a money bill to paſs a new act of the legiſlature. His Lordſhip was exceedingly pointed upon the conduct of the noble Secretary; upon which

Lord Sydney, in great warmth, replied, that he was himſelf the defender of his own honour.

Lord Loughborough did not doubt the noble Lord's courage, but for any trial

trial it would be put to on the preſent occaſion, it might ſtill remain immaculate: but this did not prove the noble Lord's arguments were properly founded.

The Duke of Richmond candidly acknowledged, that he did ſuggeſt the motion for the papers to be laid before the Houſe—not doubting, at the time, but that it would be agreeable to all parties; but now, he found it to be inconſiſtent with parliamentary uſage.

Lord Sydney, Lord Stormont, Earl Bathurſt, and Lord Loughborough were up ſeveral times, and, in concluſion, Lord Loughborough obſerved, that he would not make any motion, as the proceeding itſelf would ſtamp ſufficient diſgrace, and any motion upon the journals would only render the ſtain indelible.

The order of the day was then read, and the Houſe went into a committee, Lord Scarſdale in the chair. After the preamble was read,

Lord Stormont roſe, not to oppoſe the bill, but to point out the fallacy of the accounts upon which the million ſurplus was derived. His Lordſhip then, in a ſpeech of an hour, went through every article of the public revenue; the preſent calculations, and the ſurplus, he ſaid, would only have the effect of amuſing, and, in the end deceive the public. He entered into Earl Stanhope's plan, and gave it his warmeſt approbation.

Lord Bathurſt defended the bill, and the miniſter for introducing it, aſking if ſuch a doctrine was ever before heard of, as that the miniſter was to be blamed for having added to the public credit, and at the ſame time to private accommodation, in reſpect to borrowing of money, by occaſioning a conſiderable riſe in the price of ſtock. His Lordſhip objected to Lord Stanhope's plan, declaring, that heretofore it had been held an advantage that the redemption of ſtock was not near at hand, and therefore it appeared to him extraordinary indeed to contend, that the public creditors would willingly pay a premium of 10 per cent. for a right of priority of redemption.

Lord Hopetoun defended the bill from the charges of deluſion and fallacy, by a variety of cogent arguments.

Lord Loughborough, in a ſpeech of ſome length, went into the detail of the bill, and attempted to ſhew that it was founded in illuſive principles—It was a monument which had been built like a caſtle in the air, without a foundation. He ſaid it had already given a falſe riſe to the funds, and this riſe would of itſelf defeat the very object of the bill, as the commiſſioners entruſted with the management of the ſurplus muſt buy at a rate much higher than the real value of the ſtock, taken in compariſon with the proportional value of other articles; for the fact was, that ſince the ſcheme reſpecting the ſinking fund had been agitated, ſtock had riſen, and he made no doubt would riſe far beyond the value of any other article.

The Duke of Richmond attributed this circumſtance to the very extraordinary balance in our favour on the exchange, which had amounted, in a certain period, to no leſs a ſum than ten per cent. His Grace touched upon Lord Stanhope's plan, and ſeemed not rightly to diſtinguiſh between the noble Earl's printed ſcheme of fixing the three per cents at 75, ſo as to be paid off as ſtated in his pamphlet, and his ſcheme of fixing their price ultimately at 90, above which they ſhould not be paid off, let the market price riſe ever ſo much higher.

Earl Stanhope ſaid, he wondered not at the noble Duke's avowing himſelf to be no friend to the ſcheme; for how could any man approve that of which it was clear he did not underſtand one word? His Lordſhip then once more explained, that his propoſition was, that the public creditor ſhould, on condition of receiving the *bonus* of priority of redemption, ſubſcribe to the condition of letting 90 be the par inſtead of 100l. as at preſent, but till ſtocks roſe to 90, he was to be paid off at the market price.—The bill was then read a third time, and paſſed; and on the 26th it received the royal aſſent, previous to which (the members of the lower Houſe being at the bar) the Speaker addreſſed his Majeſty as follows:

"*Moſt Gracious Sovereign,*

Your faithful Commons have paſſed a bill, intitled, "An act for veſting certain ſums in Commiſſioners, at the end of every quarter of a year, to be by them applied to the reduction of the national debt;" by which they have manifeſted their attention to your Majeſty's recommendation, at the opening of this ſeſſion, for eſtabliſhing a fixed plan for the reduction of the national debt.

By the unanimity which attended the laſt and moſt important ſtage of this bill, they have given the moſt deciſive proof, that

that they have but one heart and one voice in the maintenance of the public credit and proſperity of their country.

The public credit of the nation, which is the reſult of juſt and honourable dealing, is now guarded by an additional ſecurity—and the future proſperity of this country will effectually be provided for, when it is conſidered, that for the purpoſe of pleading the cauſe of the continuance of this meaſure moſt powerfully with poſterity, your faithful Commons have, to the juſtice and good policy of it, added the authority of their own example:

*Qui facit ille jubet.*

They have not been diſcouraged, by the burdens impoſed during the laſt ten years, from ſubmitting, in the preſent time, and in the hour of peace, to new, and the poſſibility of other burdens; their object being to attain a ſituation for their country, more favourable to her defence and glory in the event of future emergencies.

A plan ſo honourable in principle, and ſo conducive to the future happineſs and ſafety of the kingdom, muſt be, in the higheſt degree, acceptable to the Father of his people.

Under that confidence, in the name of all the Commons of Great Britain, I render the bill to your Majeſty; to which, with all humility, your faithful Commons deſire your Majeſty's royal aſſent."

Several other bills, at the ſame time, received the royal aſſent, among which was the bill for altering the days of payment of annuities.

On May 11. Captain Macbride roſe to make a motion reſpecting the Captains of the navy. He ſaid, they were in a ſituation in which no other public deſcription of men could be found. He ſtated a circumſtance, that when they were put aſide by junior officers being raiſed above them, they were not admitted to that pay to which their ſituation juſtly intitled them. For as ſuch Captains were never known to ſerve, they ſhould be put upon the ſuperannuated liſt of Admirals; but inſtead of this they had only their half-pay. This was ill-treating a deſcription of men that deſerved better treatment from their country. And for what? he aſked. For fighting our battles, and preſerving the exiſtence of the nation. To them they were indebted for the places they (the Members) then poſſeſſed. He then read a memorial from a Capt. Brodie, who had been at the taking of ſeveral places in the wars before laſt; had taken himſelf ſeveral veſſels, and ſome of ſuperior force; had loſt an arm in the ſervice; and yet he was not thought a proper object to be put on the ſuperannuated liſt. He then moved, that an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, praying to admit that ſuch Captains as were then put aſide, might be placed on the ſaid liſt.—And that the Captains now holding, or, who may hold any civil employment, ſhall not be counted amongſt thoſe intitled to receive eight and ten ſhillings a-day on the half-pay liſt.

Captain Luttrell obſerved there were great objects to be done for the improvement of the navy, which, he ſaid, ſhould be ſubmitted to the conſideration of the noble Lord (Lord Howe) who had the controul of this department; and he truſted, from his being himſelf an officer, and his great abilities and experience in the profeſſion, that he would ſee great and eſſential regulations adopted.

Capt. Boyer had no objection againſt the admitting of ſo gallant and deſerving an officer as Captain Brodie to be put upon the ſuperannuated liſt; all his objection was, that it might be a precedent for a very impolitic innovation.

Mr Pitt ſaid, the extent of the addreſs was too great for him to concur in it: He was certain no men deſerved better than the navy officers, but in the preſent exigencies of the ſtate, parliament ought to be aware how it encouraged applications for expence. No doubt but caſes ſimilar to that of Captain Brodie could be adduced in other ranks in the navy, which would bring too great a demand upon the public. It ought to be conſidered, that the half-pay of the navy amounted at preſent to 193,000 l. a ſum never equalled before, and that the number of Captains at 10 s. a-day was increaſed from 20 to 30 in the year 1773; he recommended the ſubject to be taken up, and inveſtigated ſyſtematically, that the Houſe might ſee what it was doing.

Adm. Hood ſaid, he would oppoſe the motion for the preſent, as it ought to come from the ſuperior Board, who preſided over the navy.

Capt. Macbride aſked, to what was the preſent advance in the half-pay owing? to miſmanagement; for our navy was increaſed to between four and five hundred veſſels, both ſmall and uſeleſs, but

but for no other purpoſe than to gain patronage. It now appeared to him, as he juſt opened the book which contained the eſtimates of the navy, that one officer enjoyed the half-pay of 10s. a-day whilſt he had a place of 800l. a-year, as Caſh-keeper to the Excife: here was an inſtance of a man having an ample competency under government, and enjoying the firſt allowance of half pay to naval captains.

Mr Pitt moved the order of the day, which was negatived, Ayes 39, Noes 55. The motion for the addreſs was then agreed to.

On May 17. Mr Pitt roſe, and prefaced a motion reſpecting fortifications, with ſaying, he had no intention to preſs on the notice of the Houſe any plan, the adoption of which he conceived it had already reprobated. As to the plan of fortifications, he did not conſider the late diviſion of the Houſe as going to the full length of wholly ſetting aſide every ſcheme of the kind. In the diſcuſſion of that buſineſs all ſeemed to agree, that the fortification of our dock-yards was abſolutely neceſſary. The old works were either in want of repair, or if put on their former footing, were inadequate to the end they were intended to anſwer. It was therefore neceſſary that they ſhould be put, as ſoon as poſſible, on a reſpectable footing, and that new works ſhould be immediately erected for the purpoſes of ſecurity. The Houſe had not decided, in every inſtance, againſt the demolition of old works, or the erection of new ones. In this confidence he ſhould move, "that an eſtimate of the expence of ſuch parts of the plan of fortifications, which the land officers of the late board reported to his Majeſty would give a reaſonable degree of ſecurity for the dock yards at Portſmouth and Plymouth, as appear moſt neceſſary to be carried into immediate execution, ſpecifying ſuch ſums for each work as can be conveniently employed in the year 1786 towards their completion, be referred to a committee of ſupply."

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| The total for the old works at Portſmouth were eſtimated at | L. 129,140 | 9 | 10¼ |
| The total for the new at ditto | 139,270 | 13 | 11 |
| In all | 268,411 | 3 | 9¼ |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| The total for the old works at Plymouth would amount to | L. 8,522 | 6 | 5¾ |
| Total for new at ditto | 199,588 | 5 | 5 |
| In all | 208,110 | 11 | 10¾ |

The total therefore for old and new works would be L. 476,521 15 8

To carry into execution this object, it was propoſed, that this year the ſum, for old and new works at Portſmouth, of 48,558l. 19s. 2d. ſhould be expended; and that, for old and new works at Plymouth, the ſum of 14,773l. 15s. 5¾d. ſhould be employed; ſo that the whole of the annual expenditure of 1786 on the fortifications propoſed, excluſive of the purchaſe of land, amounting to 25,693l. 4s. 1¼d. would not exceed 63,332l. 14s. 7¾d.

Mr Baſtard contended, that the Houſe ought not to countenance a meaſure which it had reprobated. The Rt Hon. Gentleman oppoſite (Mr Pitt) had been uſed with moderation when the queſtion was formerly agitated; but that moderation he had abuſed. The ſoldier who had brought the treaſure he found to the Roman Emperor, had been deſired by him to uſe it; but the treaſure of moderation which the Rt Hon. Gentleman had carried to the Maſter-General of the Ordnance, he had been adviſed by him to abuſe. He conſidered the motion as a ſecret attack on the declared ſentiments of the Houſe. The pill which had been formerly preſented was too hard to be ſwallowed, and was now pounded, that it might go down with the greater eaſe. The ſpirit of the Maſter-General of the Ordnance had migrated into that Houſe, and could not too ſoon be expelled from it.

Mr Fox oppoſed the motion, on the following grounds, viz. that it would lead the Committee into diſcuſſions, which, as they related to profeſſional objects, and the defence of the nation, belonged more eſpecially to a ſecret cabinet; that the preſent eſtimate was founded on the *data* of the board of officers, which *data* the Houſe had reprobated; and that on this account the revival of a queſtion ſo grounded, and which had been negatived, was an affront to the Houſe. He hoped that the Rt Hon. Gentleman would in future pay more reſpect to the opinion of the Houſe, and not attempt to force an obnoxious meaſure on the country.

country. He likewiſe hoped every gentleman would conceive that the plan was totally reprobated, conſequently that it could never again be propoſed to parliament.

Mr Dundas obſerved, that the approbation of the board of officers was ſurely no diſparagement to the eſtimate. He would adviſe the Houſe to think of doing ſomething in the time of peace; for, if they were called to fortify in time of war, they would act from panic, and would do things more expenſively than in cooler moments.

It was agreed, that the motion ſhould be withdrawn.

Mr Rolle then moved, That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, praying, that his Majeſty would be graciouſly pleaſed to order an eſtimate to be laid before the Houſe, of the repairs neceſſary for the old works at Portſmouth and Plymouth. The motion was agreed to.

On May 18. Lord Surrey moved, according to promiſe, that a committee be appointed to take into conſideration the ſtate of the repreſentation of this country, which, after a ſhort converſation, was negatived on a diviſion.

May 19. Mr Dempſter moved ſeveral reſolutions for placing light-houſes in certain parts of the coaſts in the north ſeas, which he ſtated to be of the utmoſt importance to the ſafety of the navigation in many places on the coaſt of Scotland, where veſſels were frequently loſt for the want of ſuch lights.—The reſolution paſſed *nem. con.*

Mr Sheridan, May 22. roſe to make his promiſed motion for the printing of tax-bills. Some perſons had pretended to argue againſt the printing of tax-bills on the ſame principle that had induced the Houſe to reſiſt the ſuffering evidence or counſel to be heard againſt them—to prevent the Houſe, on occaſion of every new tax, from being embarraſſed by the applications of thoſe who, whether the tax was a good or bad one, would be ſure, from motives of private intereſt, to give it every oppoſition. Was it leſs neceſſary for the Houſe to underſtand the principles of a tax-bill than one of an ordinary nature? Here he argued to the experience of the Houſe—that it had always been remarkable that tax-bills required the greateſt alterations and amendments in every ſubſequent ſeſſion. He drew a humorous title for a bill to remedy the defects of former bills, which he ſaid was often found nearly to copy the words of the ſchool-boy's tale of *This is the houſe that Jack built.* Firſt came a bill impoſing a tax—then came a bill to amend that bill—next a bill to explain the bill that amended the bill—next a bill to remedy the defects of the bill that explained the bill that amended the bill—and ſo on, he ſaid, *ad infinitum.*

When the laugh occaſioned by this ſtatement had ſubſided, Mr Sheridan proceeded to point out ſeveral abſurdities in the tax-bills which had been lately paſſed, and which might all have been avoided, if the bills, by being printed, had been ſubmitted to a full and public diſcuſſion. In the horſe-tax bill, for inſtance, there was a clauſe which required a ſtamp to be placed, not indeed on the animal, but on ſome part of his accoutrements. This clauſe, on a little conſideration, had been abandoned. There was, however, inſerted another ſo abſurd, that it was never carried into execution; he meant the clauſe by which it was enacted, that the numbers and names of all the horſes in each pariſh ſhould be affixed on the church-door! The church-wardens were alſo required by the ſame act to return liſts of the windows within their diſtricts to the commiſſioners of ſtamps—for the purpoſe of detecting thoſe who had not entered their horſes. If horſes were in the habit of looking out at windows, this might poſſibly have been a prudent and judicious regulation; but under the preſent circumſtances there was ſome little occaſion for wonder how theſe ideas came to be aſſociated in the minds of thoſe who framed the bill; unleſs it was that they wiſhed to ſink the buſineſs of legiſlation into contempt, even with thoſe who were appointed to carry the laws into execution.--A happy encouragement to ſmuggling was given in the act which enjoined the ſtaving of all ſpirits that ſhould be ſeized: as conſumers muſt be again ſupplied, the ſmugglers were emboldened to proceed in their buſineſs, and, he preſumed to ſay, drank in grateful libations the health of the miniſter who framed the bill, with *three times three.* In fact, every bill of the preſent adminiſtration had gone through as many transformations as the inſect in its progreſs to become a butterfly; and every one of them afforded a ſubſtantial argument for the neceſſity of his preſent motion. He next condemned the propoſed tax on perfumery; and enumerating the articles of lavender, milk of roſes, &c. ſaid that the commiſſioners, in diſtinguiſhing

the various particulars of taxation, muſt be gifted by nature with the noſes of pointers; and then, alluding to parliament, quoted the following paſſage from Pope's Rape of the Lock:

"Our humble province is to tend the fair,
Not a leſs pleaſing, tho' leſs glorious care;
To ſave the powder from too rude a gale,
Nor let th' impriſon'd eſſences exhale."

Mr Sheridan concluded by moving, "That the bill relative to a tax on perfumery be printed."

Mr Roſe ſaid, he had no particular objection to the motion, but thought it was ill-timed, and would be of very little ſervice.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer expreſſed himſelf happy that the days of taxation were nearly at an end, as the revenue of the country was conſiderably improved. If any good could be derived from the preſent motion, he would not oppoſe it; but from a conſciouſneſs of its futility, he was of opinion it was needleſs to trouble the Houſe with any thing of the kind.

The motion was negatived, Ayes 24, Noes 119.

May 24. On the third reading of the bill for repealing certain clauſes in the late India bill, and for regulating the judicature of India,

Mr Fox roſe, not he ſaid to oppoſe the bill in this late ſtage, but to enter his proteſt againſt it. It met with his diſſent, as eſtabliſhing a judicature anomalous and unknown to the conſtitution, and as doing little where much was to be done—as repealing but a ſmall part where nearly the whole was objectionable. On the preſent occaſion he did not riſe to argue, but to proteſt; but he could not but obſerve, that miniſters, in removing the clauſes which were repealed by the preſent act, had ſhewn on what ſlight grounds they proceeded to the moſt deſperate meaſures. The compulſion on gentlemen returning from India to make a full diſcloſure of their effects, if not juſtified by ſtrong neceſſity, was a piece of tyranny, for inſtance, unexampled in the hiſtory of legiſlation. That neceſſity, it appeared from their preſent conduct, did not exiſt; and from that conduct it was plainly to be inferred, that no confidence could be placed in an adminiſtration, which from ſlight cauſes could proceed to ſuch dangerous innovations.

Mr Dundas defended his conduct in introducing the preſent bill. The Right Hon. gentleman, he obſerved, had himſelf alledged that ſome change in the former bill was neceſſary. The alteration was now produced, and before his objections were made, he ought firſt to have ſtated why, in the courſe of two years, he had not introduced ſomething better himſelf. The repeal of a clauſe enforcing the diſcloſure of property was occaſioned, he ſaid, not by any conviction of its impropriety, but merely on account of the diſguſt which it had occaſioned in India.

Mr Fox replied, that it was a ſtrange mode of reaſoning to ſay, that a perſon who was not in the habit of bringing bills into that Houſe, ſhould by omitting to bring in a bill on any ſubject, be thereby diſqualified from ſtating his objections to what was brought forward.

Mr Grenville ſaid, it was imagined that the clauſe reſpecting the diſcloſure of property would not have occaſioned any diſcontent, as it afforded gentlemen returning from India an opportunity to exempt themſelves from calumny and reproach. He mentioned the conduct of Lord Macartney as a proof of the juſtice of this obſervation.—The bill paſſed without a diviſion.

On May 11. the Houſe proceeded in the examination of witneſſes on the charges againſt Mr Haſtings. Capt. Jacques was called to the bar. In the courſe of his examination, objections and replies were made to almoſt every queſtion, and the witneſs was continually obliged to withdraw. The Captain's evidence being cloſed, Mr Burke declared he ſhould not trouble the Houſe at preſent with any further examinations. Major Scott then, with permiſſion of the Houſe, called in Major Balfour; as this evidence gave a new turn to the conduct of Mr Haſtings, we ſhall give the ſubſtance of the leading part of it, viz. That he had reſided in India upwards of twenty years, and was in the country of the Rohillas at the time of the war; that he did not know of any wanton cruelties in the conduct of that war; that when the army firſt arrived, ſeveral villages were deſerted, and ſome outrages might have been committed, but that he did not know of any town or village that was deſtroyed; that at the firſt alarm the huſbandmen and manufacturers flew on all ſides from their dwellings, but after the defeat of the Rohillas and the death of their general, the Nabob Vizier iſſued general orders to protect the natives, and accordingly they returned to their habitations; that by the treaty of

peace

peace which followed that war, it was ſtipulated that the Rohillas ſhould leave the country and croſs the Ganges, which was accordingly done by about 40,000 of them, including women and children; that they were not moleſted in their retreat; and that the country of Rohilcund, when he marched back, was in as good a ſtate of cultivation as when they entered it.

On May 18. after a ſhort converſation, Mr Burke agreed that the further diſcuſſion of the queſtion, relative to the manner in which he was to bring forward his ſpecific charges, be poſtponed to Friday ſe'nnight. Major Gilpin was then called to the bar, and went through an examination, of conſiderable length, on the ſubject of the Princeſſes of Oude. Next day Mr Burke acquainted the Houſe, that on conſideration of what had fallen from Mr Pitt, he had adopted the mode recommended by him, and, inſtead of preſſing the Houſe to a general vote of impeachment on the whole of the charges againſt Mr Haſtings, as had formerly been his intention, he ſhould propoſe a ſeparate queſtion on each ſeveral article of charge, and then move for a reſolution of impeachment grounded on them all. That he ſhould begin on Tueſday ſe'nnight with the Rohilla war.

On May 25. Mr Dundas preſented a petition from the Directors of the Eaſt-India Company, ſtating, that ſince the eſtimates they delivered in the year 1784, ſeveral unexpected circumſtances had ariſen, in their being obliged to make inveſtments, and pay conſiderable ſums of money, on account of the out-ſtanding expences of the late war: and alſo, that though they experienced many good and ſalutary effects from the commutation-act, they would be unable to avail themſelves of its advantages to the full extent, without a conſiderable increaſe of their capital. For which purpoſe they prayed the aſſiſtance of the Houſe, in authoriſing them to make uſe of their credit. Mr Dundas then moved, that from the circumſtances contained in the petition, leave be given to bring in a bill for the purpoſes mentioned in the prayer of the petition.

Mr Fox contended, that there was no circumſtances mentioned in the petition which could have occurred ſince the year 1784; the out-ſtanding debts, on account of the war, &c. being fully within their calculation at that period. The motion was agreed to.

## NEW BOOKS.

*Sparrman's Voyage to the Cape of Good Hope, continued.* [p. 339.]

AMong the Hottentots, as well as in all probability among the reſt of mankind diſperſed over the whole globe, we muſt acknowledge the fair-ſex to be the moſt modeſt: for the females of this nation cover themſelves much more ſcrupulouſly than the men. They ſeldom content themſelves with one covering, but almoſt always have two, and very often three. Theſe are made of a prepared and well greaſed ſkin, and are faſtened about their bodies with a thong, almoſt like the aprons of our ladies. The outermoſt is always the largeſt, meaſuring from about ſix inches to a foot over. This is likewiſe the fineſt and moſt ſhowy, and frequently adorned with glaſs beads ſtrung in different figures, in a manner which ſhews, even among the unpoliſhed Hottentots, the ſuperior talents and taſte of the fair-ſex relative to dreſs and ornament, as well as their powers of invention and diſpoſition to ſet off their perſons to the beſt advantage. The outer apron, which is chiefly intended for ſhew and parade, reaches about half way down their thighs. The middle one is about a third, or one half leſs, and is ſaid by them to be neceſſary by way of reſerve, and as an additional entrenchment of modeſty, when their gala garment is laid aſide. The third, or innermoſt, which is ſcarcely larger than one's hand, is ſaid to be uſeful at certain periods, which are much leſs troubleſome to the fair-ſex here than in Europe. All theſe aprons, however, even to that which is decorated with beads, are not leſs beſmeared and greaſy than their bodies: ſo that it was probably ſome of theſe aprons, particularly the innermoſt, which miſled the reverend Jeſuit Jackard, who, on his return to Europe, firſt propagated the ſtories concerning the natural veils or excreſcences of the Hottentot women. Theſe females, moreover, are careful, as a matter of decency, to pull their aprons tight about them, ſo as to reach under their ſeat when they ſit down.

In other reſpects the garment worn by the Hottentots for covering their bodies is a ſheep-ſkin, with the woolly ſide turned inwards; their pelliſſe, or cloak, made of ſome ſmaller fur, is tied forwards over the breaſt. When the weather is

not cold, they let it hang loose over their shoulders in a careless manner, when it reaches down to the calves of their legs, leaving the lower part of the breast, stomach, and fore part of the legs and thighs bare; but in rainy and cold weather they wrap it round them, so that the fore part of the body, likewise, is in some measure covered with it as far as below the knees.

As one sheep-skin alone is not sufficient for this purpose, there is a piece sewed on at the top on each side, or to speak more properly, fastened on with a thong, sinew, or catgut. In warmer weather they wear this cloak sometimes with the hairy side outwards; but in that case they oftener take it off entirely, and carry it on their arms. In general the Hottentots do not burden themselves with a great many changes of these cloaks, but are content with one, which serves them at the same time for clothing and bedding; and in this they lie on the bare ground, drawing themselves up in a heap so close, especially when the weather is cold, that this *kross*, as they call it in broken Dutch, or *kaross*, is quite sufficient to cover them.

The *kaross* which is used by the women for the same purpose, does not differ from those used by the men in any other respect than that the women have a long peak which they turn up, forming with it a hood or little pouch, with the hairy side inwards. In this they carry the little children, to which their breasts are now and then thrown over the shoulders, a practice which likewise prevails with some other nations.

The men in general wear no peculiar covering on their heads. I scarce remember above two that had a cap, made of a greased skin, the fur of which had been taken off in the preparation. Those who live nearest to the colonists fancy the European hats, wearing them slouched all round, or else with one side turned up. The women in like manner frequently go bare-headed. When they cover their heads, it is with a cap in the form of a short truncated cone. It is made without any seam, of the segment of some animal's stomach, and is as black as soot mixed with fat can make it. These are frequently so prepared, as to look as if they were shaggy, and others again like velvet; and upon the whole make a tolerable handsome appearance. Over this cap they sometimes wear another ornament, consisting of an oval wreath, or, if the reader pleases, a crown made of a buffaloe's hide, with the brown hair outwards. This is about the breadth of four fingers in height, and surrounds the head so as to go a little way down the forehead, and the same depth into the neck behind, without covering the upper part of the cap above described. Both edges of this wreath, as well the lower one on which it rests, as the upper one, are always smooth and even, and each of them set with a row of small shells, of the *cyprea* kind, to the number of more than thirty, in a manner, that being placed quite close to each other, their beautiful white enamel, together with their mouths, is turned outwards. Between these two rows of shells run one or two more in a parallel line, or else are waved or indented in various tastes. It may easily be imagined what a pretty effect these shells have sticking out of the brown fur of the buffaloe's skin, and at the same time, with what additional charms a greasy Hottentot dame appears in a cap and wreath to the full as greasy as herself.

The ears of the Hottentots are never adorned with any pendant or other ornaments hanging from them, any more than the nose, as they both are among other savages; this latter, however, is sometimes, by way of greater state, marked with a black streak of soot, or, more rarely indeed, with a large spot of red lead; of which latter, on holidays, they likewise put a little on their cheeks.

The necks of the men are bare, but those of the women are decorated with what is, in their opinion, a great ornament. It consists of a thong of undressed leather, upon which are strung eight or ten shells. These, which are about the size of beans, have a white ground, with large black spots of different sizes; but as they are always made use of in a burnished state, I cannot say whether they are the *nerita albicilla*, or *exuvia*. Appearing collectively in the form of a necklace, they certainly adorn the greasy part they are hung upon, though, perhaps, not in proportion to the price at which they are obtained; for these shells are commonly sold for not less than a sheep a piece, as it is said they are to be had no where else than on the most distant coast of *Caffria*. The lower part of the body is the principal place on which both sexes, by more showy ornaments; seemingly

ſeemingly wiſh to fix each other's attention. For though they very much fancy, and conſequently purchaſe the glaſs beads of Europe, eſpecially the blue and white ones of the ſize of a pea, yet the women rarely, and the men never, wear them about their neck; though both ſexes tie one or more rows of theſe beads round their middle, next the girdle to which the coverings or aprons above mentioned are faſtened.

Another ornament in uſe with both ſexes, is rings on their arms and legs. Moſt of theſe rings are made of thick leather ſtraps, generally cut in a circular ſhape, which by being beat and held over the fire, are rendered tough enough to retain the curvature that is given them. It is theſe rings that have given riſe to the almoſt univerſally received notion, that the Hottentots wrap guts about their legs, in order to eat them occaſionnally. The men wear from one to five or ſix of theſe rings on their arms juſt above the wriſt, but ſeldom any on their legs. The matrons of a higher rank frequently have a conſiderable number of them both on their arms and legs, eſpecially on the latter, ſo that they are covered with them from the foot up to the knees. Theſe rings are of various thickneſs; ſometimes of that of a gooſe quill, and ſometimes two or three times that ſize. Now and then they are made of pieces of leather, forming one entire ring, ſo that the hands and feet muſt be put through them when the wearer wiſhes to put them on. Upon the legs they are ſtrung on, ſmall and great, one with another, without order, and are ſo much larger than the legs, as to ſhake off, and get twiſted, when the wearer walks or is in any kind of motion. Theſe rings give the good Hottentot matrons a world of trouble, as well in the wear as the preparation; and at the ſame time are not a little clumſy and ponderous, not to mention ſeveral other inconveniencies. But ſuch is the peculiar turn of mankind, that from the Hottentot, as unconſtrained as rude in his manners, to thoſe nations which carry the arts and ſciences to the higheſt degree of perfection, they are univerſally apt to fall into ſuch modes of dreſs, as are not only uſeleſs, but likewiſe in a great meaſure impriſon their bodies and limbs!

Rings of iron or copper, but more eſpecially of braſs, of the ſize of a gooſe-quill, are conſidered as genteeler and more valuable than thoſe of leather. They are, however, ſometimes worn along with the latter, to the number of ſix or eight at a time, particularly on the arms. The girls are not allowed to uſe any rings till they are marriageable.

The habitations of the Hottentots are as ſimple as their dreſs, and equally adapted to the wandering paſtoral life they lead in thoſe parts. In fact they ſcarcely merit any other name than that of huts; though perhaps as ſpacious and eligible as the tents and dwelling-places of the patriarchs; at leaſt they are ſufficient for the Hottentot's wants and deſires, who may therefore be conſidered as a happy man, in being able in this point likewiſe ſo eaſily to ſatisfy them. The great ſimplicity of them is, perhaps, the reaſon why in a Hottentot craal, or village, the huts are all built exactly alike; and that one meets there with a ſpecies of architecture that does not a little contribute to keep envy from inſinuating itſelf under their roofs. Some of the huts are of a circular, and others of an oblong ſhape, reſembling a round bee-hive, or a vault. The ground plot is from eighteen to twenty-four feet in diameter. The higheſt of them are ſo low, that even in the center of the arch, it is ſcarcely ever poſſible for a middle-ſized man to ſtand upright. But neither the lowneſs thereof, nor that of the door, which is but juſt three feet high, can perhaps be conſidered as any inconvenience to a Hottentot, who finds no difficulty in ſtooping and crawling on all fours, and who is at all times more inclined to lie down than ſtand. The fire-place is in the middle of each hut, by which means the walls are not ſo much expoſed to danger from fire. From this ſituation of the fire-place the Hottentots likewiſe have this additional advantage, that when they ſit or lie in a circle round the fire, the whole company equally enjoys the benefit of its warmth.

The door, low as it is, is the only place which lets in the day-light, and at the ſame time the only out-let which is left for the ſmoke. The Hottentot, inured to it from his infancy, ſees it hover round him without feeling the leaſt inconvenience from it to his eyes, while lying at the bottom of his hut in the midſt of the cloud, rolled up like a hedge-hog, and wrapped up ſnug in his ſheep ſkin; he is now and then obliged to peep out from beneath it, in order to ſtir

fire, or perhaps light his pipe; or elſe ſometimes to turn the ſteak he is broiling over the coals.

The materials for theſe huts are by no means difficult to be procured; and the manner of putting them together being both neat and artificial, merits commendation in a Hottentot, and is very ſuitable to his character. The frame of this arched roof, as I have deſcribed it above, is compoſed of ſlender rods, or ſprays of trees. Theſe rods being previouſly bent into a proper form, are laid either whole or pieced, ſome parallel with each other, others croſswiſe; they are then ſtrengthened, by binding others round them in a circular form with withies. Theſe withies, as well as the rods themſelves, are taken, as well as I can recollect, chiefly from the *Cliffortia ſtrobilifera*, which grows plentifully in this country near the rivers. Large mats are then placed very neatly over this lattice-work, ſo as perfectly to cover the whole. The aperture which is left for the door is cloſed, whenever there is occaſion for it, with a ſkin fitted to it, or a piece of matting. Theſe mats are made of a kind of cane, or reed: theſe reeds being laid parallel to each other, are faſtened together with ſinews or cat-gut, or elſe ſome kind of pack-thread, ſuch as they have had an opportunity of getting from the Europeans. They have it therefore in their power to make their mats as long as they chuſe, and at the ſame time as broad as the length of the ruſh will admit of, viz. from ſix to ten feet. This ſame kind of matting is now made uſe of likewiſe by the coloniſts, next to the tilts of their waggons, by way of preventing the ſail-cloth from being rubbed and worn by them, as well as of helping to keep out the rain. When a Hottentot has a mind to take his houſe down, and remove his dwelling, he tranſports all his mats, ſkins, and ſprays, on the backs of his cattle.

The order or diſtribution of theſe huts in a craal, or clan, is moſt frequently in the form of a circle, with the doors inwards; by this means a kind of yard, or court, is formed, where the cattle are kept at nights. The milk, as ſoon as it is taken from the cow, is put to other milk, which is crudled, and is kept in a leather ſack; of this the hairy ſide, being conſidered as the cleanlier, is turned inwards: ſo that the milk is never drank while it is ſweet. In certain northern diſtricts, ſuch as *Roggeveld*, or *Bockveld* where the land is, as it is called, *karroo*, or dry and parched, the Hottentots, as well as the coloniſts, are ſhepherds.

[*To be continued.*]

*The Obſerver — a Collection of moral, literary, and familiar Eſſays.* 3 vol. Crown 8vo. 10s. 6d. Dilly.

THE firſt edition of Mr Cumberland's entertaining work conſiſted of forty eſſays only, [vol. 47 p. 394.]: this ſecond contains ninety-three numbers; and is as remarkable for correctneſs and beauty of typography, as the former was for awkwardneſs and inaccuracy. Theſe additional eſſays are not inferior to the firſt forty numbers, either in thought or expreſſion. The ſame characteriſtics prevail through all of them. The literary eſſays are diſtinguiſhed by the ſame unoſtentatious diſplay of real learning, and are the productions of a much more extenſive inquiry than will appear, we apprehend, to a ſuperficial reader. The familiar and moral eſſays favour much more of the world than the cloſet; they not only contain faithful pictures of real life, but are written with praiſe-worthy intentions, and are enlivened by a chaſte and ſubdued facetiouſneſs, which beſpeaks the gentleman as well as the accompliſhed writer.

With reſpect to Mr Cumberland's ſtyle, it may deſerve attention, as being formed on a very different model from the faſhionable phraſeology of the day. He ſeems to have avoided all gaudy words, all formal antitheſis, and all ſtudied turns of expreſſion, with as much care as others ſeek for them; and has rather affected the idiomatic eaſe and elegant fluency of ADDISON, than the ambitious ornament and elaborate dignity of JOHNSON. In doing this he has ſometimes been betrayed into a vulgarity and flatneſs of diction, which ſhould be carefully avoided by every polite writer, in times ſo correct and critical as the preſent.

Among the new eſſays we were particularly pleaſed with the Voluptuary's Soliloquy, which we ſhall here inſert, together with the concluding number, containing an account of the Author's views and wiſhes in this publication.

*The* VOLUPTUARY'S SOLILOQUY.

"I find myſelf in poſſeſſion of an eſtate, which has devolved upon me without any pains of my own: I have youth and health to enjoy it, and I am determined ſo to do: pleaſure is my object, and I muſt therefore ſo contrive as to make that

that object laſting and ſatisfactory: if I throw the means away, I can no longer compaſs the end; this is ſelf-evident. I perceive therefore that I muſt not game; for though I like play, I do not like to loſe that which alone can purchaſe every pleaſure I propoſe to enjoy; and I do not ſee that the chance of winning other people's money can compenſate for the pain I muſt ſuffer if I loſe my own: an addition to my fortune can only give ſuperfluities; the loſs of it may take away even the neceſſaries; and in the mean time I have enough for every other gratification but the deſperate one of deep play: it is reſolved therefore that I will not be a gameſter: there is not common-ſenſe in the thought, and therefore I renounce it.

But if I give up gaming, I will take my ſwing of pleaſure; that I am determined upon. I muſt therefore aſk myſelf the queſtion, what is pleaſure? Is it high living and hard drinking? I have my own choice to make, therefore I muſt take ſome time to conſider of it. There is nothing very elegant in it, I muſt confeſs; a glutton is but a ſorry fellow, and a drunkard is a beaſt: beſides I am not ſure my conſtitution can ſtand againſt it: I ſhall get the gout, that would be the devil; I ſhall grow out of all ſhape; I ſhall have a red face full of blotches, a foul breath, and be loathſome to the women: I cannot bear to think of that, for I doat upon the women, and therefore adieu to the bottle and all its concomitants; I prefer the favours of the fair-ſex to the company of the ſoakers, and ſo there is an end to all drinking; I will be ſober, only becauſe I love pleaſure.

But if I give up wine for women, I will repay myſelf for the ſacrifice; I will have the fineſt girls that money can purchaſe—Money, did I ſay? What a ſound has that!—Am I to buy beauty with money, and cannot I buy love too? for there is no pleaſure even in beauty without love. I find myſelf gravelled by this unlucky queſtion: mercenary love! that is nonſenſe; it is flat hypocriſy; it is diſguſting. I ſhould loath the fawning careſſes of a diſſembling harlot, whom I pay for falſe fondneſs: I find I am wrong again: I cannot fall in love with a harlot; ſhe muſt be a modeſt woman; and when that befals me, what then? Why then, if I am terribly in love indeed, and cannot be happy without her, there is no other choice left me; I think I muſt even marry her! nay I am ſure I muſt; for if pleaſure leads that way, pleaſure is my object, and marriage is my lot; I am determined therefore to marry, only becauſe I love pleaſure.

Well! now that I have given up all other women for a wife, I am reſolved to take pleaſure enough in the poſſeſſion of her; I muſt be cautious therefore that no body elſe takes the ſame pleaſure too; for otherwiſe how have I bettered myſelf? I might as well have remained upon the common. I ſhould be a fool indeed to pay ſuch a price for a purchaſe, and let in my neighbours for a ſhare; therefore I am determined to keep her to myſelf; for pleaſure is my only object, and this I take it is a ſort of pleaſure that does not conſiſt in participation.

The next queſtion is, how I muſt contrive to keep her to myſelf?—Not by force; not by locking her up; there is no pleaſure in that notion; compulſion is out of the caſe; inclination therefore is the next thing; I muſt make it her own choice to be faithful: it ſeems then to be incumbent upon me, to make a wiſe choice, to look well before I fix upon a wife, and to uſe her well when I have fixed: I will be very kind to her, becauſe I will not deſtroy my own pleaſure; and I will be very careful of the temptations I expoſe her to, for the ſame reaſon. She ſhall not lead the life of your fine town ladies; I have a charming place in the country; I will paſs moſt of my time in the country; there ſhe will be ſafe, and I ſhall be happy. I love pleaſure, and therefore I will have little to do with that curſs'd intriguing town of London; I am determined to make my houſe in the country as pleaſant as it is poſſible.

But if I give up the gaieties of a town life, and the club, and the gaming-table, and the girls, for a wife and the country, I will have the ſports of the country in perfection; I will keep the beſt pack of hounds in England, and hunt every day in the week.—But hold a moment there! what will become of my wife all the while I am following the hounds? Will ſhe follow no body; will no body follow her? A pretty figure I ſhall make, to be chaſing a ſtag, and come home with the horns! At leaſt I ſhall not riſk the experiment; I ſhall not like to leave her at home, and I cannot take her with me, for that would ſpoil my pleaſure; and I hate a horſe-dog woman; I will keep no whipper-in in petticoats. I perceive therefore I muſt give up the hounds, for I am determined

nothing

nothing ſhall ſtand in the way of my pleaſure.

Why then, I muſt find out ſome amuſements that my wife can partake in; we muſt ride about the park in fine weather; we muſt viſit the grounds, and the gardens, and plan out improvements, and make plantations; it will be rare employment for the poor people—that is a thought that never ſtruck me before; methinks there muſt be a great deal of pleaſure in ſetting the poor to work—I ſhall like a farm for the ſame reaſon; and my wife will take pleaſure in a dairy; ſhe ſhall have the moſt elegant dairy in England; and I will build a conſervatory, and ſhe ſhall have ſuch plants and ſuch flowers!—I have a notion I ſhall take pleaſure in them myſelf—And then there is a thouſand things to do within-doors; it is a fine old manſion, that is the truth of it: I will give it an entire repair; it wants new furniture; that will be very pleaſant work for my wife: I perceive I could not afford to keep hounds and do this into the bargain. But this will give me the moſt pleaſure all to nothing, and then my wife will partake of it—And we will have muſic and books—I recollect that I have got an excellent library—There is another pleaſure I had never thought of—And then no doubt we ſhall have children, and they are very pleaſant company, when they can talk and underſtand what is ſaid to them. And now I begin to reflect, I find there are a vaſt many pleaſures in the life I have chalked out, and what a fool ſhould I be to throw away my money at the gaming-table, or my health at any table, or my affections upon harlots, or my time upon hounds and horſes, or employ either money, health, affections, or time, in any other pleaſures or purſuits, than theſe, which I now perceive will lead me to ſolid happineſs in this life, and ſecure a good chance for what may befal me hereafter."

*The* OBSERVER's *concluding Number* (93).

"Being now arrived at the concluſion of my third volume, and having hitherto given my readers very little interruption in my own perſon, I hope I may be permitted to make one ſhort valedictory addreſs to theſe departing adventurers, in whoſe ſucceſs I am naturally ſo much intereſted.

I have employed much time and care in rearing up theſe Eſſays to what I conceived maturity, and qualifying them, as far as I was able, to ſhift for themſelves, in a world where they are to inherit no popularity from their author, nor to look for any favour but what they can earn for themſelves. To any who ſhall queſtion them who they are, and whence they come, they may naturally anſwer—*We are all one man's ſons*—we are indeed *Obſervers*, but *no Spies*. If this ſhall not ſuffice, and they muſt needs give a further account of themſelves, they will have to ſay, that he who ſent them into the world, ſent them as an offering of his good-will to mankind; that he truſts they have been ſo trained as not to hurt the feelings or offend the principles of any man who ſhall admit them into his company; and that for their errors (which he cannot doubt are many), he hopes they will be found errors of the underſtanding, not of the heart: they are the firſt-fruits of his leiſure and retirement; and as the mind of a man in that ſituation will naturally bring the paſt ſcenes of active life under its examination and review, it will ſurely be conſidered as a pardonable zeal for being yet ſerviceable to mankind, if he gives his experience and obſervations to the world, when he has no further expectations from it on the ſcore of fame or fortune. Theſe are the real motives for the publication of theſe Papers, and this the author's true ſtate of mind: to ſerve the cauſe of morality and religion is his firſt ambition; to point out ſome uſeful leſſons for amending the education and manners of young people of either ſex, and to mark the evil habits and unſocial humours of men, with a view to their reformation, are the general objects of his undertaking. He has formed his mind to be contented with the conſciouſneſs of theſe honeſt endeavours, and with a very moderate ſhare of ſucceſs: he has ample reaſon notwithſtanding to be more than ſatisfied with the reception theſe Papers have already had in their probationary excurſion; and it is not from any diſguſt, taken up in a vain conceit of his own merits, that he has more than once obſerved upon the frauds and follies of popularity, or that he now repeats his opinion, that it is the worſt guide a public man can follow, who wiſhes not to go out of the track of honeſty; for at the ſame time that he has ſeen men force their way in the world by effrontery, and heard others applauded for their talents, whoſe only recommendation

recommendation has been their ingenuity in wickedneſs, he can recollect very few, indeed, who have ſucceeded, either in fame or fortune, under the diſadvantages of modeſty and merit.

To ſuch readers as ſhall have taken up theſe Eſſays with a candid diſpoſition to be pleaſed, he will not ſcruple to expreſs a hope that they have not been altogether diſappointed; for though he has been unaſſiſted in compoſing them, he has endeavoured to open a variety of reſources, ſenſible that he had many different palates to provide for. The ſubject of politics, however, will never be one of theſe reſources; a ſubject which he has neither the will nor the capacity to meddle with. There is yet another topic which he has been no leſs ſtudious to avoid, which is perſonality; and tho' he profeſſes to give occaſional delineations of living manners, and not to make men in his cloſet, (as ſome eſſayiſts have done), he does not mean to point at individuals; for as this is a practice which he has ever rigidly abſtained from when he mixed in the world, he ſhould hold himſelf without the excuſe, even of temptation, if he was now to take it up, when he has withdrawn himſelf from the world.

In the Eſſays (which he has preſumed to call *Literary*, becauſe he cannot ſtrike upon any appoſite title of an humbler ſort) he has ſtudied to render himſelf intelligible to readers of all deſcriptions, and the deep-read ſcholar will not faſtidiouſly pronounce them ſhallow, only becauſe he can fathom them with eaſe; for that would be to wrong both himſelf and their author, who, if there is any vanity in a pedantic margin of references, certainly reſiſted that vanity, and as certainly had it at his choice to have loaded his page with as great a parade of authorities, as any of his brother-writers upon claſſical ſubjects have oſtentatiouſly diſplayed. But if any learned critic, now or hereafter, ſhall find occaſion to charge theſe Eſſays on the ſcore of falſe authority or actual error, their author will moſt thankfully meet the inveſtigation; and the fair reviewer ſhall find, that he has either candour to adopt correction, or materials enough in reſerve to maintain every warrantable aſſertion.

The moraliſt and the divine, it is hoped, will here find nothing to except againſt; it is not likely ſuch an offence ſhould be committed by one, who has reſted all his hope in that revelation on which his faith is founded; whom nothing could ever divert from his aim of turning even the gayeſt ſubjects to moral purpoſes, and who reprobates the jeſt which provokes a laugh at the expence of a bluſh.

The Eſſays of a critical ſort are no leſs addreſſed to the moral objects of compoſition, than to thoſe which they have more profeſſedly in view: they are not undertaken for the invidious purpoſe of developing errors, and ſtripping the laurels of departed poets, but ſimply for the uſes of the living. The ſpecimens already given, and thoſe which are intended to follow in the further proſecution of the work, are propoſed as diſquiſitions of inſtruction rather than of ſubtlety; and if they ſhall be found more particularly to apply to dramatic compoſitions, it is becauſe their author looks up to the ſtage, as the great arbiter of more important delights, than thoſe only which concern the taſte and talents of the nation; it is becauſe he ſees with ſerious regret the buffoonery and low abuſe of humour to which it is ſinking, and apprehends for the conſequences ſuch an influx of folly may lead to. It will be readily granted there are but two modes of combating this abaſement of the drama with any probability of ſucceſs: one of theſe modes is, by an expoſition of ſome one or other of the productions in queſtion, which are ſuppoſed to contribute to its degradation; the other is, by inviting the attention of the public to an examination of better models, in which the ſtandard works of our early dramatiſts abound. If the latter mode therefore ſhould be adopted in theſe Eſſays, and the former altogether omitted, none of their readers will regret the preference that has been given upon ſuch an alternative.

If the ladies of wit and talents do not take offence at ſome of theſe Eſſays, it will be a teſt of the truth of their pretenſions, when they diſcern that the raillery, pointed only at affectation and falſe character, has no concern with them. There is nothing in which this nation has more right to pride itſelf, than the genius of its women; they have only to add a little more attention to their domeſtic virtues, and their fame will fly over the face of the globe. If I had ever known a good match broken off on the part of the man, becauſe a young lady had

had too much modeſty and diſcretion, or was too ſtrictly educated in the duties of a good wife, I hope I underſtand myſelf too well to obtrude my old-faſhioned maxims upon them. They might be as witty as they pleaſed, if I thought it was for their good; but if a racer, that has too great a ſhare of heels, muſt lie by becauſe it cannot be matched, ſo muſt every young ſpinſter, if her wits are too nimble. If I could once diſcover that men chuſe their wives, as they do their friends, for their manly atchievements and convivial talents, for their being jolly fellows over a bottle, or topping a five-barred gate in a fox-chace, I ſhould then be able to account for the many Amazonian figures I encounter in ſlouched hats, great-coats, and half-boots, and I would not preſume to ſet my face againſt the faſhion.——

The firſt numbers of the preſent collection, to the amount of forty, have already been publiſhed; but being worked off at a country preſs, I find myſelf under the painful neceſſity of diſcontinuing the edition. I have availed myſelf of this opportunity, not only by correcting the imperfections of the firſt publication, but by rendering this as unexceptionable (in the external at leaſt) as I poſſibly could. I ſhould have been wanting to the public and myſelf, if the flattering encouragement I have already received had not prompted me to proceed with the work; and if my alacrity in the further proſecution of it ſhall meet any check, it muſt ariſe only from thoſe cauſes which no human diligence can controul.

*Vos tamen O noſtri ne feſtinâte libelli!*
*Si poſt fata venit gloria, non propero.*"

M.

*The Triumph of Benevolence; a Poem.* 4to. 1s. 6d. Dodſley, Cadell, &c.

THis animated Poem was occaſioned by the deſign of erecting a ſtatue to John Howard, Eſq; The benevolent committee who have undertaken the management of that buſineſs, ſtand forth as the editors of the Poem.—We inſert the whole.

What lofty ſound through echoing Albion rings!
What raptur'd notes, as if by angels giv'n!
What thrilling airs, as from celeſtial ſtrings,
Pour in full tide the harmonies of Heaven?
From *Public Gratitude* the notes ariſe,
To honour virtuous HOWARD, yet on earth;
While Providence yet ſpares him from the ſkies,
Th' enduring *Statue* ſhall atteſt his worth.
Lo, Albion's ardent ſons the deed approve,
Wide o'er the realm to ſpread the generous flame,
A ſpirit like his own begins to move,
And all the Virtues kindle at his name.
This, this the moment, Britons, ye ſhould chuſe,
While the fair act no modeſt bluſh can raiſe;
The good man's abſence ſhall our love excuſe,
And give the god like luxury of praiſe.
By Heaven commiſſion'd, now our Patriot flies
Where Nature ſcourges with her worſt diſeaſe;
Where Turkey's plague-devoted victim lies,
And ſpotted deaths load every tainted breeze,
With love unbounded, love that knows not fear,
Where-ever pain or ſorrow dwells he goes,
Kindly as dew, and bounteous as the ſphere,
His ſocial heart no poor diſtinction knows.
Ah, what is friend, or foe, to him whoſe ſoul,
Girding creation in one warm embrace,
Extends the ſaviour arm from pole to pole,
And feels a-kin to *all* the human race?
To all the human! all the *brutal* too,
Bird, beaſt, and inſect, bleſs his gentle power;
From the worn ſteed repoſing in his view,
To the tame red-breaſt warbling in his bower.
Well may the *Spirit of the Iſle* ariſe,
With loud accord, its beſt good man to grace;
Well may the Statue point to yonder ſkies,
And call on Cherubin to guard the place.
Ye pomps of Egypt, moulder faſt away;
Ye Roman vanities, your arches hide;
Ye Gallic pageantries, profuſely gay,
Ye tombs, ye triumphs, here reſign your pride.
For not to GRANDEUR towers *our* deſtin'd buſt:
We bribe no Muſe a ſordid wreath to twine
Round the frail urn of infamy in duſt,
Nor bid our incenſe deck a villain's ſhrine.
Nor yet to PRIDE the venal Statue raiſe,
Preſerving athes Virtue had forgot;
We bid no trumpet ſound a bad man's praiſe,
Nor memory reſtore what time ſhould rot.
Nor to the Slave of GOLD, though largely grac'd
With all that Wealth on Folly could beſtow,
With all that Vanity on duſt could waſte;
Living and dead, alike fair virtue's foe.
Nor yet for THEE, thou tyrant of the plain,
Illuſtrious ſcourge and butcher of mankind!
Whoſe murthering hands whole hecatombs have ſlain,
Thy glory gathering as it thins thy kind.

Nor

Nor ev'n to thee, O FREDERIC, though thy name,
Idol of Pruſſia! now is breath'd in ſighs;
Though foremoſt in the liſt of ſanguine fame,
Exulting Victory claims thee in the ſkies.
Ah, no!—the monument *our* love would rear
Is to the MAN OF PEACE, who may deſcend,
Ev'n at this moment, into dungeons drear,
The Priſoner's guardian, and the Mourner's friend.

To noxious caverns and abhorrent caves,
Deep-ſcooped vaults and ſlow-conſuming cells,
Where wretches pace alive around their graves,
And hollow Echos ring their endleſs knells;
To ſcenes where all th' Antipathies aſſail,
Which Inſtinct, Reaſon, Nature, moſt would ſhun,
Haunts of the filth-fed Toad and ſlimy Snail,
Behold the Friend of Man undaunted run.
Ev'n now, perchance, he bears ſome Victim food,
Or leads him to the beams of long-loſt day,
Or from the air where putrid vapours brood
Chaſes the *Spirit of the Peſt* away.
Where deadly Venom poiſons now the gale,
May new-born Zephyrs ſoon be taught to blow!
Where the Heart ſickens, genial Health prevail!
Where the lake ſtagnates, living waters flow!
For who, BENEVOLENCE, thy power ſhall bound?
Thy guide a GOD, of what ſhould'ſt thou deſpair?
Let Vice ſtill deal her deſolation round,
Virtue ſhall riſe, the ruin to repair.
That may deſtroy, but this was born to ſave:
And while the warrior lays a nation low,
While one proud Cæſar would the Earth enſlave,
One humble HOWARD would an Heaven beſtow.
Lo, as by touch divine, before him flies
FEVER, that ſeizes on the burning breath;
The ICY POWER, that kills with ſhivering ſighs,
And THIRST unquenchable, that drinks till death:
And TORPOR, wrapt in his Lethean fold,
And ſwoln CONVULSION, with his eyeballs ſtrain'd;
And purple TUMOR, loathſome to behold,
And plague-ſtruck PHRENZY, foaming unreſtrain'd.
All theſe, defended by no Theban charm,
No mail, ſave that which PURITY ſupplies,
Our Chriſtian Hero meets without alarm,
And at each ſtep ſome giant miſchief dies.
Quit, Pruſſia, quit thy Frederic's crimſon ſhrine,
With olive garlands join our white rob'd band:
At HOWARD's Statue (how unlike to thine!)
Full many a faintly form ſhall duteous ſtand.
At Thine, perchance, ſhall loftier trophies riſe,
The regal banner, and the blazing car;
Sculpture more gorgeous emblems may deviſe,
And Adulation gaudier rites prepare.
High o'er the tomb the ſtoried war ſhall glow,
The black'ning ſiege and deſolated tower;
The victor's carnage redden all below,
To mark the blood-tracks of ungovern'd power.
Rage, Glory, Havock,—all the ſoldier train,
Their ſpears inverted, ſhall in marble frown;
Unnumber'd captives clank the brazen chain,
And Death himſelf embrace a Favourite's urn.

Then, as in martial pomp the youths paſs by,
The monument ſhall kindle hoſtile fire;
To arms! To arms! each madd'ning chief ſhall cry,
And Frederic's aſhes future wars inſpire.
Yet ah! not laurel'd youths or chiefs, alone
To Frederic's ſanguinary ſhrine ſhall go;
There many an execrating ſire ſhall groan,
And many an orphan melt with filial woe.
There ſhall the virgin, with affliction wild,
At dead of night explore the Monarch's tomb;
The wailing matron claim her murther'd child,
Whoſe ghoſt ſhall riſe to meet her in the gloom.
There the pale ſhade ſhall join her deep deſpair,
And fill with loud complaints the ſounding aile;
Fierce from the vault the pageant trophies tear,
Conqueſt deplore, and ſpurn th' accurſed ſpoil.
Welcome, thrice welcome, Pruſſia, to the pride
The mould'ring honours of the grave afford;
Britain from theſe indignant turns aſide,
Wooes private worth, and leaves the ſceptred Lord.

No vain idolater, the Muſe diſdains,
Proud of her truſt, to proſtitute her fires;
Let others waſte on power their meteor ſtrains,
Till flattery naufeates, and till echo tires.
The ſweet memorial of one gentle deed,
One pang prevented, or one wrong redreſs'd,
A generous morſel at the poor man's need,
A ſorrow ſoften'd, or a ſigh repreſs'd;
One artleſs rhyme, a record ſmall and dear,
That graves theſe virtues on the village ſtone,
Where Love retires to ſhade th' unwitneſs'd tear,
Surpaſſes all that ever armies won.
O Panegyric! if thy Frederic's name
One peaceful tribute has to memory given

To that direct th' uplifted trump of Fame,
For *that*, when tombs are duſt, ſhall mount to Heaven.

And ah, behold what viſions of the ſkies,
Rob'd in the pure ſerenity of light,
To conſecrate o'er HOWARD'S Statue riſe,
And mark the holy ſpot with fond delight!

Her lighteſt footſteps here ſhall MERCY bend,
Fearing to cruſh ſome harmleſs inſect near;
HUMANITY her foſtering wing extend,
With PITY, ſoftly ſmiling thro' her tear.

And CHARITY ſhall come, with ſeraph air,
And pleating MELANCHOLY pace around,
And warm BENEVOLENCE be ever there,
And CHRISTIAN MEEKNESS bleſs the hallow'd bound.

Here, too, ſome *mortal* viſitants—the Wife,
Parent, and child, reſtor'd, their joys ſhall tell;
Here ſharp REMORSE ſhall mourn a guilty life,
And Hardneſs learn for human woe to feel.

With pious offerings hither ſhall repair
What once was WANT, CONTAGION, and DISEASE:
Reſtor'd to all the liberty of air,
Here ſhall they hail the renovating breeze.

And DISSIPATION, as he paſſes here,
Abaſh'd that Vice has ravith'd all his ſtore,
Contrions ſhall drop the penitential tear,
And ſpurn the follies which deny him more.

And AVARICE too ſhall here ſuſpend his art,
His boſom looſing from the ſordid ore;
The Statue ſhall ſubdue his rugged heart,
And the rock guſh in bleſſings to the poor.

And ENVY, devious from her wonted plan,
Taught by the Statue ev'n a foe to ſave,
Shall tell her ſnakes to ſpare one virtuous man,
And own his goodneſs ere he reach the grave.

But ſhould ſome blood-polluted HERO come,
Fluſh'd with the crimſon waſte his ſword has made,
Meek HOWARD'S Statue on that ſword ſhall gloom,
Till tears ſhall ſeem to trickle on the blade.

And many a wondering TRAVELLER ſhall paſſe,
To hail the land that gave an HOWARD birth;
Till Jealouſy itſelf aids Virtue's cauſe
Prompting the Spirit of congenial worth.

And here the willing MUSE ſhall oft reſort,
To breathe her vows in many a graceful line,
From the bleſt Statue catch ſublimer fire,
Whilſt Inſpiration hovers o'er the ſhrine.

Thou, to whoſe praiſe theſe honours gather round,
Receive this tribute from thy Country's hand;
Thou, who alike by Vice, by Virtue crown'd,
Accept the homage of thy native land.

And though the memory of thy deeds ſhall bloom
When Sculpture's proudeſt boaſt ſhall be no more,
When urns, like what they guarded, meet their doom,
And Time o'er *adamant* exerts his power;

And though thy modeſt goodneſs ſhuns its right,
Though it would bluſhing ſhrink from juſt applauſe,
Unſeen would bleſs, like ſhowers that fall by night,
And ſhew th' effect while it would hide the cauſe;

True to the awful charge by Juſtice given,
Fame ſtill *will* follow, with her clarion high,
On Rapture's pinion bear the ſound to Heaven,
Nor ſuffer virtue ſuch as thine to die.

And oh, that wond'rous virtue has been ſung *,
In deathleſs lays, by Britain's loftieſt bard,
Hymn'd by a lyre that Seraphs might have ſtrung.
For HAYLEY'S MUSE has given *her* fair reward.

But feeble all that mortal man can raiſe,
Feeble the trump that peals each honour'd name,
Feeble an Hayley's lyre, a Nation's praiſe,
And all th' applauſive notes of human fame.

Yet *take our Pledge*, though mix'd, alas! with earth:
Then hear the pow'r what whiſpers in thy breaſt,
*That Voice from Heaven* alone can ſpeak thy worth,
A recompenſing GOD will give the reſt.

* Alluding to Mr Hayley's very beautiful "Ode inſcribed to John Howard, Eſq;"

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## *The* DEAN *of* BADAJOZ.

*By the Abbé* Blanchet.

[From Tales, Romances, Apologues, &c. 2 vols. 8vo]

THE Dean of the cathedral of Badajoz was more learned than all the doctors of Salamanca, Coimbra, and Alcala, united. He underſtood all languages, living and dead, and was perfect maſter of every ſcience, divine and human, except that, unfortunately, he had no knowledge of magic, and was inconſolable when he reflected on his ignorance in that ſublime art. He was told, that a very able magician reſided in the ſuburbs of Toledo, named Don Torribio. Immediately he ſaddled his mule, departed for Toledo, and alighted at the door of no very ſuperb dwelling, the habitation of that great man.

Moſt Reverend Magician, ſaid he, addreſſing himſelf to the ſage, I am the Dean of Badajoz. The learned men of Spain all allow me their ſuperior, but I am come to requeſt from you a far great-

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er honour, that of becoming your pupil. Deign to initiate me in the myſteries of your art, and doubt not but you ſhall receive a grateful acknowledgement, ſuitable to the benefit conferred, and your own extraordinary merit.

Don Torribio was not very polite, though he valued himſelf on being intimately acquainted with the beſt company in hell. He told the Dean, he was welcome to ſeek elſewhere for a maſter in magic, for that, for his part, he was weary of an occupation which produced nothing but compliments and promiſes, and that he would not diſhonour the occult ſciences by proſtituting them to the ungrateful.

To the ungrateful! cried the Dean; has then the great Don Torribio met with perſons who have proved ungrateful? and can he ſo far miſtake me as to rank me with ſuch monſters? He then repeated all the maxims and apophthegms which he had read on the ſubject of gratitude, and every refined ſentiment his memory could furniſh.

In ſhort, he talked ſo well, that the conjurer, after having conſidered a moment, confeſſed he could refuſe nothing to a man of ſuch abilities, and ſo ready at pertinent quotations. Jacintha, ſaid he, calling to his old woman, lay down two partridges to the fire; I hope my friend the Dean will do me the honour to ſup with me to-night. At the ſame time he takes him by the hand, and leads him into his cabinet; there he touches his forehead, muttering three myſterious words, which I muſt requeſt the reader not to forget, Ortobolan, Fuſtafrier, Onagriouf; then, without further preparation, he began to explain, with all poſſible perſpicuity, the introductory elements of his profound ſcience.

His new diſciple liſtened with an attention which ſcarcely permitted him to breathe, when, on a ſudden, Jacintha enters, followed by a little man, in monſtrous boots, and covered with mud up to the neck, who deſired to ſpeak with the Dean on very important buſineſs.

This was the poſtilion of his uncle, the Biſhop of Badajoz, who had been ſent expreſs after him, and had galloped quite to Toledo before he could overtake him. He came to bring him information that, ſome hours after his departure, his Grace had been attacked by ſo violent an apoplexy that the moſt terrible conſequences were to be apprehended. The Dean heartily curſed (inwardly that is, and ſo as to occaſion no ſcandal), at once the diſorder, the patient, and the courier, who had certainly all three choſen the moſt impertinent time poſſible. He diſmiſſed the poſtilion, telling him to make haſte back to Badajoz, whither he would preſently follow him. After which, he returned to his leſſon, as if there were no ſuch things as either uncles or apoplexies.

A few days after, he again received news from Badajoz, but ſuch as was well worth hearing. The principal chanter and two old canons came to inform the Dean, that his uncle, the Right Reverend Biſhop, had been taken to heaven to receive the reward of his piety; and that the chapter, canonically aſſembled, had choſen him to fill the vacant biſhopric, and humbly requeſted he would conſole, by his preſence, the afflicted church of Badajoz, now become his ſpiritual bride.

Don Torribio, who was preſent at this harangue of the deputies, endeavoured to derive advantage from what he had learned, and, taking aſide the new biſhop, after having paid him a well-turned compliment on his promotion, proceeded to inform him, that he had a ſon, named Benjamin, poſſeſſed of much ingenuity and good inclination, but in whom he had never perceived either taſte or talents for the occult ſciences. He had therefore, he ſaid, adviſed him to turn his thoughts towards the church, and had now, he thanked Heaven, the ſatisfaction to hear him commended as one of the moſt deſerving divines among all the clergy of Toledo. He therefore took the liberty, moſt humbly, to requeſt his Grace to beſtow, on Don Benjamin, the deanery of Badajoz, which he could not retain together with his biſhoprick.

I am very unfortunate, replied the prelate, apparently ſomewhat embarraſſed; you will, I hope, do me the juſtice to believe, that nothing could give me ſo great a pleaſure as to oblige you in every requeſt. But the truth is, I have a couſin, to whom I am heir, an old eccleſiaſtic, who is good for nothing but to be a dean; and if I do not beſtow on him this preferment, I muſt embroil myſelf with my family, which would be far from agreeable. But, continued he, in an affectionate manner, will you not accompany me to Badajoz? Can you be ſo cruel

cruel as to forſake me juſt at the moment when it is in my power to be of ſervice to you? Be perſuaded, my honoured maſter; we will go together; think of nothing but the improvement of your pupil, and leave me to provide for Don Benjamin; nor doubt but, ſooner or later, I will do more for him than you expect. A paltry deanry, in the remoteſt part of Eſtremadura, is not a benefice ſuitable to the ſon of ſuch a man as yourſelf.

The canon law would, no doubt, have conſtrued this offer of the prelate's into ſimony. The propoſal, however, was accepted; nor was any ſcruple made by either of theſe two very intelligent perſons. Don Torribio followed his illuſtrious pupil to Badajoz, where he had an elegant apartment aſſigned him in the epiſcopal palace, and was treated with the utmoſt reſpect by all the dioceſe, as the favourite of his Grace, and a kind of grand vicar.

Under the tuition of ſo able a maſter, the Biſhop of Badajoz made a rapid progreſs in the occult ſciences. At firſt, he gave himſelf up to them with an ardour which might appear exceſſive; but this intemperance grew, by degrees, more moderate, and he purſued them with ſo much prudence, that his magical ſtudies never interfered with the duties of his dioceſe. He was well convinced of the truth of a maxim, very important to be remembered by eccleſiaſtics, whether addicted to ſorcery, or only philoſophers and admirers of literature, That it is not ſufficient to aſſiſt at learned nocturnal meetings, or adorn the mind with the embelliſhments of human ſcience; but that it is alſo the duty of divines to point out to others the way to heaven, and plant, in the minds of their hearers, wholeſome doctrine and Chriſtian morality.

Regulating his conduct by theſe commendable principles, the learned prelate was celebrated throughout Chriſtendom for his merit and piety, and promoted, when he leaſt expected ſuch an honour, to the archbiſhopric of Compoſtella.

The people and clergy of Badajoz lamented, as may be ſuppoſed, an event by which they were deprived of ſo worthy a paſtor; and the canons of the cathedral, to teſtify their reſpect, unanimouſly conferred on him the right of nominating his ſucceſſor.

Don Torribio did not neglect ſo alluring an opportunity to provide for his ſon. He requeſted the biſhopric of the new Archbiſhop, and was refuſed with all imaginable politeneſs. He had, he ſaid, the greateſt veneration for his old maſter, and was both ſorry and aſhamed it was not in his power to grant a thing which appeared ſo very a trifle; but, in fact, Don Ferdinand de Lara, conſtable of Caſtile, had aſked this ſame biſhopric for his natural ſon; and, though he had never ſeen that nobleman, he had, he ſaid, ſome ſecret, important, and, what was more, very ancient obligations to him. It was, therefore, an indiſpenſable duty to prefer an old benefactor to a new one; but that he ought not to be diſcouraged at this proof of his juſtice, as he might learn, by that, what he had to expect when his turn arrived, which it certainly would be the very firſt opportunity.

This anecdote concerning the ancient obligations of the Archbiſhop, the magician had the goodneſs to believe; and rejoiced, as much as he was able, that his intereſts were ſacrificed to thoſe of Don Ferdinand.

Nothing, therefore, was thought of but preparations for their departure to Compoſtella, where they were now to reſide. Though theſe were ſcarcely worth the trouble, conſidering the ſhort time they were deſtined to remain there; for, at the end of a few months, one of the Pope's chamberlain's arrived, who brought the Archbiſhop a cardinal's cap, with an epiſtle, conceived in the moſt reſpectful terms, in which his Holineſs invited him to aſſiſt, by his counſel, in the government of the Chriſtian world; permitting him, at the ſame time, to diſpoſe of his mitre in favour of whom he pleaſed.

Don Torribio was not at Compoſtella when the courier of the holy father arrived. He had been to ſee his ſon, who ſtill continued a prieſt, in a ſmall pariſh at Toledo; but he preſently returned, and was not put to the trouble of aſking for the vacant archbiſhopric. The prelate ran to meet him with open arms.

My dear maſter, ſaid he, I have two pieces of good news to relate at once. Your diſciple is created a cardinal, and your ſon ſhall ſhortly be advanced to the ſame dignity. I had intended, in the mean time, to have beſtowed on him the archbiſhopric of Compoſtella, but unfortunately for him, or rather for me, my mother, whom we left at Badajoz, has,

has, during your abſence, written to me a cruel letter, by which all my meaſures have been diſconcerted. She will not be pacified unleſs I appoint for my ſucceſſor the archdeacon of my former church, Don Pablos de Salazar, her intimate friend and confeſſor. She tells me, it will occaſion her death, if ſhe ſhould not be able to obtain preferment for her dear father in God; and I have no doubt but what ſhe ſays is true. Imagine yourſelf in my place, my dear maſter. Shall I be the death of my mother?

Don Torribio was not a perſon who would incite or urge his friend to be guilty of parricide; nor did he indulge himſelf in the leaſt reſentment againſt the mother of the prelate.

To ſay the truth, however, this mother he talked of was a good kind of woman, nearly ſuperannuated, who lived quietly with her cat and maid-ſervant, and ſcarcely knew the name of her confeſſor. Was it likely, then, that ſhe had procured Don Pablos his archbiſhopric? Was it not far more probable, that he was indebted for it to a Gallician lady, his couſin, a young widow, at once devout and handſome, in whoſe company his Grace the Archbiſhop had frequently been edified during his reſidence at Compoſtella: Be it as it may, Don Torribio followed his eminence to Rome. Scarcely had he arrived in that city, before the Pope died. It is eaſy to imagine the conſequence of this event. The conclave met. All the voices of the ſacred college were unanimous in favour of the Spaniſh cardinal. Behold him, therefore, Pope!

Immediately after the ceremonies of his exaltation, Don Torribio, admitted to a ſecret audience, wept with joy while he kiſſed the feet of his dear pupil, whom he ſaw fill with ſo much dignity the pontifical throne. He modeſtly repreſented his long and faithful ſervices. He reminded his Holineſs of his promiſes; thoſe inviolable promiſes which he had renewed before he entered the conclave. He hinted at the hat which he had quitted on receiving the tiara; but, inſtead of demanding that hat for Don Benjamin, he finiſhed, with moſt exemplary moderation, by renouncing every ambitious hope. He and his ſon, he ſaid, would both eſteem themſelves too happy, if his Holineſs would beſtow on them, together with his benediction, the ſmalleſt temporal benefit; ſuch as an annuity for life, ſufficient for the few wants of an eccleſiaſtic and a philoſopher.

During this harangue the ſovereign pontiff conſidered within himſelf how to diſpoſe of his preceptor. He reflected that he was no longer very neceſſary; that he already knew more of magic than was ſufficient for a Pope; that it muſt be highly improper for him to appear at the nocturnal aſſemblies of ſorcerers, and aſſiſt at their indecent ceremonies. After weighing every circumſtance, his Holineſs concluded, that Don Torribio was not only a uſeleſs, but a troubleſome dependant; and, this point decided, he was no longer in doubt what anſwer to return. Accordingly, he replied in the following words: "We have learned, with concern, that, under the pretext of cultivating the occult ſciences, you maintain a horrible intercourſe with the ſpirit of darkneſs and deceit; wherefore we exhort you, as a father, to extirpate your crime by a repentance proportionable to its enormity. Moreover, we enjoin you to depart from the territories of the church within three days, under pain of being delivered over to the ſecular arm, and its mercileſs flames."

Don Torribio, without being diſconcerted, immediately repeated aloud the three myſterious words which the reader was deſired to remember; and, going to the window, cried out, with all his force, Jacintha, you need ſpit but one partridge, for my friend the Dean will not ſup here to-night. This was a thunderbolt to the imaginary Pope. He immediately recovered from a kind of trance, into which he had been thrown by the three magic words, when they were firſt pronounced, and perceived that, inſtead of being in the Vatican, he was ſtill at Toledo, in the cloſet of Don Torribio, and ſaw, by the clock, it was not yet a complete hour ſince he firſt entered that fatal cabinet, where he had been entertained with ſuch pleaſant dreams. In that ſhort time he had imagined himſelf a magician, a biſhop, an archbiſhop, a cardinal, a pope; and at laſt he found he was only a dupe and a knave. All was illuſion, except the proofs he had given of his deceitfulneſs and evil heart. He inſtantly departed, without ſpeaking a word, and, finding his mule where he had left her, returned to Badajoz, without having made the ſmalleſt progreſs in the ſublime ſcience in which he had propoſed to become an adept.

SIR

SIR, *Bury, Aug.* 26.

THE information you receive with this, relative to a late phænomenon, not very usual in this island, was communicated to me by a philosophical friend at Bury in Suffolk.——I am, &c. C. L.

*Gent. Mag.*

*An account of the* WHIRLWIND *that passed over Saxham, Wesley, and Fornham, near Bury St Edmund's, Suffolk, July* 31. *about six in the evening.*

THE first effects that came within our knowledge were at Saxham, at a cottage belonging to one White: the glass was broken; and it shook the house very much. A man standing at the door was carried cross the road, and flung against a bank, which was ten yards distant: another man had his hat taken off, and never saw it after. It proceeded cross some fields to Mr Canham's of Saxham, where there was a stack of faggots: it took off about twenty, and threw them IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS: one it carried over the road into a field a considerable distance. It damaged the thatch of the out-houses a little. In its progress it tore up a large alder tree: and in crossing a road in its way to Wesly wood, (where its greatest effects were), it broke off the head of a tree, and damaged several others. There we had a good opportunity of measuring its diameter: which, at that place, was about eighty yards. In the wood there were seven trees broken off in the body; and above 100 damaged in their arms. Two of the trees measured about *six* feet in *circumference*, and were broken off about five feet from the ground: the rest were smaller, and were broken near their heads. They all were fine young oaks.

From the wood it passed over a brick-kiln: where there were ten men and boys at work. They saw it approaching for some minutes. It looked *black* like a cloud, appearing *sometimes more extended than at other times.* It appeared to reach the clouds, *which seemed to vibrate backwards and forwards for the space of four or five yards.* It approached with a *noise*, which they compared to that of *a fire roaring up a stove-chimney when the blower is on.*

When it came near them, they went into the hovel, and instantly it rushed in at the door, and drove them one amongst another. A boy who was sitting on some boards was flung off into the corner of the hovel. Another boy would have been carried out at an opposite door; but saved himself by catching hold of the legs of one of the men. It raised the roof, displaced some of the thatch, and removed one of the cross-beams. *It left a strong sulphureous smell*, which hung on their throats (as they expressed it) for some hours. It destroyed a lodge, built with faggots and straw, which was near the hovel. The man who keeps the turnpike at Wesly saw it come out of the wood, cross the corn-fields; and it appeared to move *the lower part about one yard above the corn*: —From thence it passed to the coal yards at Fornham, where it damaged the coalmeter's house, and broke an elm off, about five feet from the ground. It left the same strong sulphureous smell as before described, which lasted some time.

There was *lightning* and *thunder* near where about it happened at the same time.

REMARKS.

The sensible and excellently informed communicator of these facts, Mr John Mills, of Bury, is of opinion this was an electrical effect: and there are many circumstances in the narrative (those particularly which I have marked with capitals and Italics) that may lead to the same conclusion a reader attentive to these subjects.

I subjoin an extract from the History of Electricity, by the great historian of philosophy, Dr *Priestly*. It contains the sentiments of *Beccaria*; a name of distinguished eminence in philosophical estimation.

After speaking of *water-spouts*, and shewing the various indications of their being the result of an electric cause, he says, "The very same things that water-spouts are at sea, are some kinds of WHIRLWINDS and hurricanes by land. They have been known to tear up trees, to throw down buildings, to make caverns in the earth: and in all these cases, to scatter earth, stones, brick, timber, &c, to a great distance, IN EVERY DIRECTION.—They have always been attended with *a prodigious rumbling noise.*

That these phænomena depend upon electricity, cannot but appear very probable, from the nature of several of them: but the conjecture is made more probable from the following additional circumstances.

They generally appear in months peculiarly subject to thunder-storms: and are

are commonly preceded, accompanied, or followed, by lightning, rain, or hail; the previous ſtate of the air being ſimilar. *Whitiſh* or *yellow* flaſhes of *light* have ſometimes been ſeen moving with prodigious ſwiftneſs about them."

According to the report of ſome, this laſt circumſtance ſeems to have conſtituted a part of the phænomenon juſt related. But as the manner of mentioning of it was ſomewhat ambiguous, it was very judiciouſly omitted by Mr Mills, as not being thought ſufficiently aſcertained to form a part of the report.

With the ſame reſerve I notice the probability that the *black* cloud, mentioned in the narrative, might partly conſiſt of *duſt* attracted by the electric cloud in its paſſage: as Mr Wiloke relates to have happened July 20. 1758; when alſo there was lightning obſerved.

The *vibrating* appearance might poſſibly, as the communicator of this intelligence very properly remarked to me, proceed from a quick motion, in reality *rotatory*: a circle (eſpecially if moving ſwiftly, and ſeen obliquely at ſome diſtance) aſſuming the form either of an ellipſis (with an eccentricity proportioned to the remoteneſs of the ſpectator, and other circumſtances), or of a right line; which is an ellipſis with its foci infinitely produced, as a circle is an elipſe with its foci coincident: or there might be a *real* vibration in a direction nearly ſimilar to the appearance; owing to alternate fits of electric attraction and repulſion, or to oppoſite currents excited in the air. The contraction and expanſion of the cloud at different times, is very ſimilar to the *electrified* plume; and probably took place as it approached the ſurface of an electricity ſimilar to its own, by which it would be repelled, or of a contrary ſtate of electricity, by which it would be attracted.

I dined at Bury the evening when this whirlwind took place. There were ſeveral pretty ſtrong claps of thunder: one, particularly, of the ſhort craſhing kind of exploſion. Mr Walker, of George-ſtreet, Hanover ſquare, diſtinguiſhed by his abilities as a lecturer in experimental philoſophy, took notice of this exploſion, and expreſſed his opinion that we ſhould hear it had been accompanied by ſome remarkable circumſtance. It does not accurately appear what the diſtance of time was between this electric diſcharge and the riſe of the *whirlwind*. The interval could not, I think, be of many minutes. The ſituation of the villages mentioned in Mr Mills's account is nearly thus: *Weſley* about *a mile and three quarters* weſt of Bury; *Saxham* about *two miles and three quarters* weſt, a little bearing to the north; *Fornham*, very near two miles conſiderably to the northward of Bury.

The Bury paper of Aug. 2. mentions, that on the ſame evening, and about the hour, a terrible hurricane aroſe from the weſt, accompanied with thunder and lightning, which blew down the fence of Mr Panton's garden at *Newmarket*, and carried it full twenty yards, blew off the arms of ſeveral trees in its courſe, and levelled a large barn belonging to Mr Deane of *Cheveley*.

From *Cheveley*, the moſt diſtant place mentioned, to *Fornham All Saints*, is *eight miles and a quarter* in rectilinear direction (as all the other diſtances mentioned are computed), bearing from S. W. to N. E. from *Weſley* to *Saxham*, which appear to have been the greateſt limits of breadth northward, within which its effects were any way conſiderable, is *a mile and an half*. And at the other extremity, from *Chively* to *Newmarket*, is a width of above *two miles and an half* on the direct line; the diagonal between thoſe places being nearly three. It were to be wiſhed the time it took its progreſs from beginning to end could be aſcertained.

The hurricane on *Barnes Common*, near *London*, *October* 1780, had ſimilar but much more violent effects. That too was accompanied with lightning: and appeared evidently to have riſen from the earth, by the depth and form of the furrows it had thrown up. The phænomenon now under conſideration, appears, on the contrary, to have been the conſequence of an electrified cloud deſcending from the atmoſphere, and attracted very near towards the ſurface of the earth.

I have been rather prolix and circumſtantial on this article, on account of its unfrequency in *England*, and its intereſting nature: I flatter myſelf no more ſo than your candour and theſe circumſtances will excuſe.

Yours, &c.

C. L.

*VERSES presented to the* King, *on their* Majeſties *Viſit to the* Duke *and* Ducheſs of Marlborough, *at Blenheim, Aug.* 14.

DRead Sovereign, hail! an humble Bard
His loyal gratulation pays:
Ah! how unequal are his lays
To win a Monarch's great regard.

No CHAUCER now delights thoſe groves
With Poeſy's enchanting ſound;
Yet ſtill diſport the purple Loves,
And ſtill the Graces hover round:
Matur'd by years, improv'd by taſte,
Each lovelier ſcene is fairer made,
Than when BRITANNIA's Monarchs bleſt
With daily ſmiles this rural ſhade.

Illuſtrious Sire! ordain'd to prove
The ardour of a nation's love;
By ev'ry royal gift endear'd,
By ev'ry rank ador'd, rever'd;
By Guardian Angels ſav'd from fate,
Who mindful of BRITANNIA's weal,
Thy ſacred ſteps, well-pleas'd, beſet,
And turn'd aſide the fatal ſteel—
To WOODSTOCK welcome—May the day
With brighteſt luſtre ſhine,
That gives our eyes their richeſt feaſt,
The ſight of BRUNSWICK's line.

At Fancy's call, Time's viſta meets my ſight;
A ſplendid group of Kings appear,
Who ſhed benignant luſtre here,
And fought theſe bowers with ever freſh delight.
An ALFRED's ſacred name we boaſt,
Whoſe valour ſav'd this ſea-girt iſle;
Whoſe Genius bade the Muſes ſmile,
And woo'd them to the Northern coaſt.
To HENRIES, EDWARDS, hallow'd names!
The muſe recurs with reverence due;
But more a GEORGE's worth inflames,
And veils their glories from her view.
O! bleſt in all that can adorn
The Monarch or the Man;
To ſcatter happineſs intent,
The public good to plan:

What raptures muſt pervade thy breaſt,
When Memory aids the royal thought;
And ſhews what former Kings poſſeſt,
And what thy greater bounty wrought.

In public love, in private bliſs,
Unrivall'd ſhines a GEORGE's reign;
And future ages envying this,
The charming ſcene ſhall paint again.
And may the Bard who tunes the lays
In diſtant æras, tell this iſle,
That GEORGE's long and happy days
Were cheer'd with CHARLOTTE's heavenly ſmile;
That riches flow'd from commerce ſpread;
That arts were cheriſh'd by the throne,
That Peace and Plenty rear'd their head,
And called a happy realm their own.

*ODE, occaſioned by the Attempt lately made to aſſaſſinate his* MAJESTY.

NOW may the Laureate's muſe
Her choiceſt ſtores diffuſe,
And while ſhe bids the poet ſing,
To hail Britannia's fav'rite King,
Inſpire his ſubjects with her ſong,
And waft the fragrant gale of loyalty along.

At Pity's ſoft command
The Monarch ſtretch'd his hand,
(Inclin'd his ever gracious ear
A female's plaintive tale to hear,
Suſpecting not her dark deſign) [benign.
Held out his royal arm—and ſhed the look
Her evil genius then began
To execute the horrid plan,
And boldly drew the curſed knife,
And raſhly dar'd attempt to take the Monarch's life.

How did our much-lov'd Sov'reign feel
When he beheld the pointed ſteel,
And mark'd his female foe!
Had not his guardian angel hied
(Still faithful at the Monarch's ſide)
To turn aſide the blow,
Britons ere now had mourn'd the hour,
And curs'd that dark infernal pow'r,
Which firſt inſpir'd the thought:
For ſure ſome wretched bigot's rage,
The fatal curſe of ev'ry age,
The royal victim ſought.

He, guided by a pow'r ſupreme,
Deſery'd the dark the bloody ſcheme,
And 'ſcap'd the deep-laid ſnare:
Still may that hand his ways direct,
Our gracious Sov'reign ſtill protect,
And guard with tender care.

And may the beſt of Kings ſtill prove
Both public and domeſtic love,
While all his loyal ſubjects own,
That liberty and peace are wafted from his Throne.

M—M—M.

*Aug.* 5.

*Tranſlation of an Italian Sonnet upon an Engliſh Watch. By Mrs* PIOZZI.

OH ſkill'd to meaſure day and night!
Small elegant machine;
On which to pore with fix'd delight,
Britannia's ſons are ſeen:
Time, fell deſtroyer, holds his place
Triumphant o'er thy wheels,
And on thy fair enamel'd face
Imprints each hour he ſteals.
While one by one the minutes fly,
Touch'd by thy magic hand;
Each ſtill approaching with a ſigh
Dull duty's lingering band;
Wouldſt thou from thy prolific breaſt
One hour to me reſign,
Willing to Fate I'd yield the reſt,
That hour of bliſs be mine!

Mrs

*Mrs* JORDAN'S ADDRESS *to the Edinburgh Audience after her return from Glaſgow.*

BY you encourag'd ſo of late,
Her viſit ſhe may well repeat;
We mean *Thalia*, in whoſe train
The little *Enſign* comes again;
Who, tho' the firſt was ſeen to wheel,
Will in the end prove true as ſteel,
And, like the *Parthian*, after flight,
On rallying will fiercer fight.
For three whole days will keep the field,
And, with your ſanction for her ſhield,
She hopes her freſh attack once more
Will win the fortreſs as before;
For, as you own'd her once victorious,
To conquer twice, Oh! t'will be glorious!

She aſks no trumpet, drum, or fife,
To raiſe her courage for the ſtrife,
But boldly will maintain the battle,
Content if hands and ſticks but rattle.

But now, from metaphor to part,
And ſpeak the feelings of my heart,
I'll tell you plain, and tell you true,
Your praiſes over-rate my due;
And ſhort as is the time I've known you,
My warmeſt patrons ſtill I'll own you.

For tho' a *ſtranger* I came here,
I as a *native* now appear:
And who will fail that worth to prize,
Which you have deign'd to nat'ralize?

Yet, from your ſhore ſince doom'd to go,
It is my pride to let you know,
That memory ſhall keep the ſcore
Of your paſt bounty evermore;
And back if I ſhou'd chance to come,
I'll think it but returning home.

*EPILOGUE to the Comedy of* TIT *for* TAT.

IN times of yore, our anceſtors diſcreet
Thought woman's faſeſt ſtation was retreat;
Over her tender cheek Dame Partlet then
Preach'd this grave leſſon, "Mind beware of Men!"
Still o'er and o'er repeating night and day,
"Fly, ſhun 'em all as animals of prey!"
But now, or *their's* is chang'd, or elſe *our* nature,
And man's not held ſo *terrible* a creature.
No dame now takes beneath the wing her charge,
But let's the tender chicken roam at large.
Should ſquare-toes fret—the anſwer then is pat,
Our girl's no fool—ſhe'll give 'em *Tit for Tat.*
Miſs, free from ſchool, and ſtrong by ſanction grown,
Leads half a ſcore wild fellows round the town.
For ev'ry ſmile, a ſmile is at command—
For ev'ry bow, a curt'ſy's near at hand—
For ogling, flirting, frolic, fancy, chat,
Belles equal beaux—and Miſs gives *Tit for Tat.*
The firſt that offers wins her eaſy heart,
And Gretna's blackſmith joins 'em ne'er to part.
Now like fair Venus' turtles view the pair,
This coos *my love*, and that returns, *my dear.*
At length a ſhort moon waſted, one to that,
How runs the reck'ning of—*our Tit for Tat.*
He rails, ſhe ſcolds, they're yet upon the ſquare,
There's ſtill a *Rowland* for an Oliver.
To clubs abroad, and taverns ſhou'd he roam,
She'll have her cards, and *private friends* at home.
"Your temper, Madam!"—"Sir, our tempers ſuit, [a brute."
"You once were kind, and you, but now a
Shou'd he prove falſe, what remedy for that?
*Gallant* for *Miſtreſs*—'tis but *Tit for Tat.*
Since, *like* to *like*, how ſhall our friend requite
Thoſe whom their kindneſs have brought here to-night;
Be pleas'd with his endeavour, grant but that,
And well you will repay him *Tit for Tat.*

*The following* EPITAPH, *for his own tomb, was written at Ramſgate, a few days before his death, by the late Judge* NARES.

IN hope of future bliſs content I lie,
Tho' pleas'd to live, yet not diſpleas'd to die.
Life has its comforts, and its ſorrows too;
For both to all-wiſe Heaven our thanks are due: [reſt,
Elſe thoughtleſs man would fix his place of
Where nature tells him he can ne'er be bleſt,
How far my hopes are vain, or founded well,
God only knows, but the laſt day will tell.

*EPITAPH in St George's, Hanover-Square, Burying-Ground*

Near this place lies the Body of
The Rev. LAURENCE STERNE, A. M.
Died Sept. 13 1768, aged 53 years.
"*Ah! mollitèr oſſa quieſcant.*"

IF a ſound head, warm heart, and breaſt humane,
Unſully'd worth, and ſoul without a ſtain;
If mental powers could ever juſtly claim
The well-won tribute of immortal fame;
STERNE was the man, who, with gigantic ſtride,
Mow'd down luxuriant follies far and wide.
Yet what, tho' keeneſt knowledge of mankind,
Unſeal'd to him the ſprings that move the mind;
What did it boot him? Ridicul'd, abus'd,
By fools inſulted, and by prudes accus'd!
In his, mild reader, view thy future fate;
Let him deſpiſe what 'twere a ſin to hate!

"This monumental ſtone was erected to the memory of the deceaſed by two Brother Maſons; for although he did not live to be a member of their ſociety, yet all his incomparable performances evidently prove him to have acted by rule and ſquare; they rejoi in this opportunity of perpetuating his hi and irreproachable character to after ages.

## HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

### RUSSIA.

Orders have been iſſued by the Empreſs, for continuing to the Britiſh merchants till Jan. 1. 1787, the principal privileges and immunities ſecured to them by the late treaty of commerce, the term of which expired on the 1ſt of July. *Lond. Gaz.*

### UNITED PROVINCES.

The affairs of the republic of Holland were perhaps never more deranged than at this time. Such a ſucceſſion of internal commotions and diſputes among the governing powers after a war, the expences of which are not yet wound up, bear ſo hard, that its conſequences are to be dreaded.

On the 31ſt ult. the reſolution reſpecting the government of the garriſon of the Hague, was debated in the aſſembly of the States General with the greateſt vehemence and heat that had ever been known to exiſt in the Dutch councils in the memory of the oldeſt members thereof; but that, in order to prevent further diſturbances among the populace, who ſeem ripe for diſorder, it is forbidden to be publicly mentioned. It is however ſaid, that the French intereſt again loſes ground, occaſioned by the innovations which the Count de Maillebois in his arrangement of a land force had made on the liberties of the people. That officer had been burnt in effigy in many places of the United Provinces.

### IRELAND.

*Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Caſtlebar, who was the intimate friend of Mr Fitzgerald.*

I have only to ſubjoin the following declarations, the one made by Mr Brecknock, and written by his own hand, when he was engaged in the act of receiving the ſacrament, juſt before he was carried out to execution; the other made by Mr Fitzgerald, after ſentence had paſſed upon him, and a little before he received the ſacrament, and atteſted by the clergyman who adminiſtered that ordinance to them.

"*June* 12. 1786. I now declare, in the preſence of the Rev. Mr John Benton, in the name of Chriſt Jeſus, whom I am now going to meet, and through whoſe mercy and merits I look for a bleſſed reſurrection, That I am as innocent of the crime of which I have been found guilty by the verdict of a jury of this country, and not of my own, as the child that is unborn.—— So help me, Chriſt Jeſus. Amen.

TIMOTHY BRECKNOCK.

P. S. And I do further declare, That if my dying friend is guilty of the charge of which he was convicted, it was entirely unknown to me."

The dying declaration of Mr Fitzgerald was to the ſame purport, and atteſted by the ſame clergyman.

*Dublin, Aug.* 5. A letter from Derry, to a merchant in this city, ſays,—"I have juſt time to tell you, that our bells are now ringing for the arrival of the Neptune from Greenland, with three ſizeable fiſh, viz. one 11 feet 4 inches bone, one 10 feet 11 inches bone, and one 9 feet 7 inches bone; a good voyage; about 40 or 50 tons oil, and two tons of whalebone. This is the firſt ſhip ever fitted out from Ireland for the whale fiſhery; and ſurely the ſucceſs that attended its voyage ſhould ſtimulate our merchants to a purſuit of ſo lucrative a branch of trade. It is true, we poſſeſs a fiſhery on our own coaſts, but that is no reaſon why we ſhould not avail ourſelves of every ſource of wealth within our graſp. We ſee England, we ſee Scotland, vigorouſly proſecuting the whale fiſhery, and their labour amply repaid, while, to the everlaſting reproach of our merchants, they have not had ſufficient ſpirit even to make the experiment. The numbers of ſeamen that muſt neceſſarily be trained up in the whale and herring fiſheries, are almoſt incredible, were they once actively entered on. The wealth that muſt neceſſarily flow into the nation, the employment that they would afford to ſo many thouſands of our people at preſent idle, and the great perſonal profit that muſt accrue to individuals who might embark in thoſe laudable undertakings, are inducements not to be reſiſted by any people whoſe eyes are open to their own intereſts. It certainly will redound much to the honour of Derry, that the firſt ſhip fitted out for the fiſhery was by their merchants, while it will be no leſs a reproach on the ſpirit of the metropolis."

*Dublin, Aug.* 12. On the 3d inſtant a privy council was held, on news being received from M. Leſlie, of Torbat, in the county of Kerry, of a ſmall barrack built for the reception of 20 horſemen, being ſet on fire and burnt by the White Boys, in

in which the horſes periſhed, and the men with difficulty ſaved. The enormities committed by theſe lawleſs miſcreants call aloud for redreſs. A party of 500 of them, mounted and armed, came into Blackpool, near Cork, ſeized on a poor man who had been concerned in valuing tithes, placed him naked on a faggot inſtead of a ſaddle on a horſe's back, tied his legs under the horſe's belly, and in that ſituation left him all night with the horſe tied to a poſt. By the lateſt advices, government ſeems in earneſt to reduce them to obedience to the laws, or to extirpate them.

An order has been iſſued by government for the grenadier and light infantry companies of all the regiments in our garriſon to march towards the ſouth of Ireland, in order to put a ſtop to the tumultuous proceedings of the inſurgents, known by the name of Right Boys.

Three troops of the 4th regiment of horſe, under the command of Capt. Purden, ſet off for Kilkenny, to replace a party of light horſe ordered out againſt the White Boys.

On Sunday the 13th inſtant, ſeveral magiſtrates and gentlemen of the Queen's county, having received information, that a large party of inſurgents from Munſter would attempt their county, took out a diſmounted troop of the 14th dragoons from Ballyragget, commanded by Lieutenant Enery, and Mr Trench's volunteer company from Ballynakill; and in a circuit of near 30 miles, viſited ſeveral chapels, and about two o'clock came up with a party from Munſter, in the village of Rathdowny, whoſe inhabitants they had juſt ſworn, with many circumſtances of force and violence. The magiſtrates made 35 priſoners; and it is much to be regretted that one O'Brien, the captain, and principal inſtigator, eſcaped; as examinations are given againſt him, and a large reward offered, it is probable he will ſoon be taken.

The priſoners were for that night conducted to Ballynakill, and eſcorted to Maryborough gaol, the next morning, by a detatchment of the 9th dragoons. The troops from Ballyragget had been out 18 hours on foot, and the infantry company 16.——Several weavers from Cork and Limerick were among the number taken; and ſome decent farmers, who ſeemed forced forward, either from the oath they had been obliged to take, or from want of protection from the laws, and the dread of having their dwellings deſtroyed.

ENGLAND.

Saturday, Aug. 12. the aſſizes for Hereford ended, when three convicts received ſentence of death, viz. two for ſheep-ſtealing, the other for an offence committed in the court. A very genteel well-dreſſed man had placed himſelf cloſe to the ſide of an honeſt farmer, and appeared to preſs againſt him with more than uſual force. Mr Wells (Lord Burton's marſhal) obſerving his behaviour, and ſuſpecting his intention to be to pick the farmer's pocket, kept his eye on him, and very ſoon perceived he had accompliſhed the intent, on which he immediately went out of court. Mr Wells followed him, having firſt ſpoke to the farmer, who had loſt his purſe, containing five guineas and ſome ſilver. Mr Wells caught the thief in the ſtreet, ſecured him, and carried him into court. He was committed by the court, a bill was immediately preſented to the grand jury, found by them, and the priſoner immediately tried, convicted, and received ſentence of death, and will be executed in a few days. In leſs than the ſpace of three hours he was at perfect liberty, in the cuſtody of the gaoler, and under ſentence of death.

*Windſor, Aug.* 16. His Majeſty, the Queen, and their Royal Highneſſes the Princeſs Royal, Princeſs Auguſta, and Princeſs Eliſabeth, ſet out from Earl Harcourt's ſeat at Nuneham Courtney, after divine ſervice on Sunday morning laſt, and arrived at the eaſtern gate of the public ſchools at Oxford ſoon after one o'clock. They were conducted through the divinity ſchool to the Sheldonian Theatre, where their Majeſties and the Princeſſes being ſeated, the Vice Chancellor preſented an addreſs from himſelf, the maſters and ſcholars of the Univerſity, which his Majeſty was pleaſed to receive very graciouſly, and to return a moſt gracious anſwer.

Their Majeſties from thence proceeded to viſit the chapel at New College, the colleges of Wadham, Trinity, Lincoln, and Brazen-noſe. They then went to the council-chamber, where an addreſs was preſented from the mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty, and moſt graciouſly received by his Majeſty, who was at the ſame time pleaſed to confer the honour of knighthood on Richard Tawney, Eſq; ſenior alderman of the city of Oxford. Their Majeſties, with the Princeſſes, then viſited Chriſt-Church College, and return

returned to Nuneham the ſame evening, at about half an hour paſt ſix o'clock.

Their Majeſties and the Princeſſes ſet out again from Nuneham between nine and ten o'clock on Monday morning, and arrived at Blenheim between eleven and twelve, having been met and attended thither by the inhabitants of Woodſtock. Their Majeſties were received at Blenheim by the Duke and Ducheſs of Marlborough, with every mark of attention and reſpect. After having viewed the houſe, and as much of the park as the time would admit of, they returned to Nuneham about eight o'clock.

On Tueſday morning at Nuneham, his Majeſty was pleaſed to confer the honour of knighthood on Charles Nourſe, Eſq; of Oxford; and an addreſs was there preſented to the King from the gentlemen, clergy, and other inhabitants of the town of Witney, and its neighbourhood, which his Majeſty was pleaſed to receive very graciouſly.

Their Majeſties and the Princeſſes left Nuneham a little after one o'clock, and arrived at Windſor a little before ſix o'clock on Tueſday evening. *Lond. Gaz.*

An advertiſement was publiſhed, Aug. 8. by the Commiſſioners appointed by act of parliament for inquiring into the loſſes of all ſuch perſons as have ſuffered in their properties, in conſequence of the ceſſion of the province of Eaſt Florida to the King of Spain, giving notice, "That they ſhall be ready to receive the claims of all perſons intending to apply under that act, at their office, N° 27. Southampton buildings, Chancery Lane, every day (Sundays excepted), between eleven and three, until Jan. 1. 1787, after which time no claims will be received:" And requiring, "That ſuch perſons as intend to claim under the act, ſtate their caſes fully by way of memorial, and deliver the ſame at the office; and that each claimant ſpecify in the memorial his place of abode, and the names, deſcriptions, and places of abode of the witneſſes by whoſe teſtimony the caſe is intended to be ſubſtantiated; or otherwiſe the ſame will not be taken into conſideration:" And recommending the peruſal of the act to the ſeveral claimants, before they make their applications.

*London, Aug.* 30. A remarkable inſtance of a ſleep-walker came well authenticated during the courſe of the month. Between eleven and twelve o'clock, a boy who ſerves the bricklayers in Maidſtone, got out of bed in his ſleep, went through a caſement, and walked over the ridges of ſeveral houſes, after which he returned, and came in at the ſame window, where he awaked in great tremor, occaſioned by a fall on his entrance: this extraordinary circumſtance happened in ſight of ſeveral ſpectators, one of whom, not knowing him to be in a dormant ſtate, had in contemplation a deſign of firing at him with a gun, from a concluſion that he meant to break into ſome houſe; but ſeeing him return, without any attempt to effect ſuch a purpoſe, both parties think themſelves happy at the interpoſition of Providence, to prevent ſo dreadful a cataſtrophe. *Gent. Mag.*

*Cockermouth, Aug.* 11. About five minutes before two this morning we had a ſmart ſhock of an earthquake, which continued three or four ſeconds, attended with a noiſe as if a well-packed hogſhead had been thrown with violence on a boarded floor. The ſtrings of a ſpinnet were heard to vibrate. Others thought thieves had broken in.

*Whitehaven, Aug.* 11. A few minutes before two this morning the ſhock of an earthquake was very ſenſibly felt in this town and neighbourhood; its continuance from three to five ſeconds. The barometer at twenty-nine degrees, the weather cloſe and ſultry. Its direction ſuppoſed from ſouth-eaſt, accompanied with a rumbling noiſe in the air. There was not ſufficient light to make farther obſervations. The conſternation it cauſed was inexpreſſible. A chimney was thrown down in Tangren-ſtreet, three people, in different parts of the town were thrown off their feet, and one conſiderably hurt.

There are accounts of the ſhock being felt at the following places, viz. Workington, the quay a little damaged; Maryport, Redmain, Keſwick, Lorton, very ſevere but no damage. Egremont, ſome chimnies thrown down, and part of the ruins of the caſtle. Bootle, Broughton, Ravenglaſs, Ulverſton, no damage. Kendal, Lancaſter, Garſtang, Preſton, Hawkeſhead, and alſo Newcaſtle, no damage, Penrith, Appleby, Brough, ſome old walls thrown down in the neighbourhood of theſe places. In the Iſle of Mann, and at Dublin, no damage whatever.

*Gilſland, Aug.* 11. We were this morning exceedingly alarmed by a ſhock of an earthquake. All who were aſleep were awakened by a violent tremulous noiſe which

which ſhook the houſe, beds, doors, and window-ſhutters. When it happened, which was about twelve minutes after two o'clock, I was quite awake, and had been ſo for ſome time. The tremulous noiſe, which laſted many ſeconds, appeared to me ſimilar to what I have often felt on a diſcharge of great cannons at a diſtance; and in ſome ſeconds after, the ſhock followed, which made the beds, &c. tremble and move. A little more, I am perſuaded, would have brought down the houſe. It was felt for ſeveral miles round. Some of the country people ſay they found their beds ſhake violently under them, and looked upon it as enchantment, having no idea of an earthquake. The ſhock was from north to ſouth. The weather for ſome days has been very cloſe and warm, with rain. At the time of the ſhock it rained violently, but no lightning or thunder. The ſtate of the air was very peculiar this morning about the time of the ſhock; ſeveral ruſh lights in the rooms went out, and it was with difficulty they would burn for ſome time afterwards.

Thurſday the 10th and Friday the 11th of Auguſt were remarked in London as peculiarly and almoſt inſufferably hot; although the mercury in the beſt thermometers did not riſe ſo high as it has been many other days in the courſe of the ſummer, when the heat was not ſo intenſe. They, however, had no earthquake.

SCOTLAND.

*Kelſo, Aug.* 11. There was a ſhock of an earthquake felt here this morning about two o'clock. Its motion appeared to be from weſt to eaſt. Mr W———'s wife and daughter at Corham were ſo much alarmed with the motion, ſucceeded by a noiſe, as if the ſlates had been tumbling from the roof of the houſe, that they jumped out of bed. I remember of being waked by what appeared to me to be a jolt, and which at the time I attributed to a nervous affection, which one ſometimes feels in their ſleep.

*Dumfries, Aug.* 15. On Friday morning laſt, the 11th current, about twenty minutes after two, we had two ſmart ſhocks of an earthquake.—Although at a time of night when moſt people are aſleep, it was felt by great numbers; many it awaked, who were terrified by the ſhaking of their beds, which made the joiſts and partitions of their houſes to crack as if falling.—Thoſe who were awake ſay, the diſtance betwixt the ſhocks would be three or four ſeconds. One man, who had been about a mile down the river fiſhing, happened to be ſitting on the ground with his face to the weſt; the account he gives is——That the ground ſeemed to lift itſelf firſt againſt the right thigh, and immediately againſt his left, ſomething like a wave; and, in two or three ſeconds after, the ſame was repeated, but with greater violence; from this he judged the ſhocks run from north to ſouth.

We learn from another man, who happened to get up early to go out of town, that while he was ſitting in his room, with his back to the wall, he was affected as if ſome perſon had taken him by the ſhoulders and ſhaken him.—He gives the ſame account as to the diſtance betwixt the two ſhocks. He tells too, that a bird he had in a cage was thrown from the ſtick on which it was ſitting, and that it fluttered about the cage in a great fright. The ſame thing we hear happened to many other birds; and that ſome killed themſelves by the violence with which they had, through the fright, darted themſelves againſt their cages; and others loſt a great many feathers.—The man who had got up to go out of town, informs us moreover, that ſince the ſhocks, his kitchen door cannot be ſhut, but with a good deal of force, which before was ſhut quite eaſy.

The plates on many dreſſers were made to clatter or jingle; and in one houſe an earthen plate was thrown from a dreſſer down to the ground, and broken; and the ſlates were heard to rattle on the houſe by ſome people on the ſtreet, who had been leading peats.—The ſame ſhocks we hear have been felt many miles round, but we have not learned further particulars. And though many have been frightened, yet providentially no body, ſo far as we hear, has been hurt.—We are ſince informed that this ſhock has been felt at Carliſle, Penrith, Kendal, Whitehaven, and Newcaſtle, about the ſame time.

*Kirkcudbright, Aug.* 14. On Friday laſt, about three o'clock in the morning, a ſmart ſhock of an earthquake was felt here by many inhabitants of this town. Tables, beds, and cheſts of drawers, and even whole houſes, were perceived to be ſenſibly affected by the ſhock. Happily, through a divine interpoſition, no fatal accident happened; but at Whitehaven the concuſſion was felt more ſtrongly, and its effects were more violent. It is ſaid, that ſome ſtacks of chim-

were thrown down, and the walls of ſeveral houſes were ſplit, and the people that were in their beds thrown out, and ſome of them much buiſed.

Immediately before the ſhock, a prodigious noiſe was heard by our people, reſembling the rattling of thunder at ſome diſtance. The Thurſday evening which preceded the concuſſion was remarkably cloſe, ſtill, and ſultry; the atmoſphere ſeemed to be ſo much condenſed with heat, as to render breathing difficult; a thick fog came from the ſouth-weſt, which increaſed in denſity till next morning, when the ſhock was felt. From the accounts I have got, the ſhocks extended a conſiderable way alongſt the coaſt; how far it penetrated into the interior part of the country, I have not as yet been informed.

*Glaſgow, Aug.* 17. On Friday laſt, at a little paſt two o'clock in the morning, a ſlight ſhock of an earthquake was felt, in different parts of the town, by ſeveral perſons who happened to be awake at that ſtill hour, and who mentioned it, and deſcribed its circumſtances ſome days previous to the arrival of correſponding accounts from the ſouth country.

About five minutes after the clock had ſtruck the firſt quarter paſt two in the morning, a gentleman lodging in the north ſide of the College court, whilſt in bed, and fully awake, found his attention excited by a low rumbling noiſe, ſeemingly very diſtant, which laſted about three ſeconds, and which was repeated twice afterwards, at very ſhort intervals. This was preſently followed by another very uncommon and much louder noiſe, which ſeemed to come from the wainſcot of the north ſide of the room, as if occaſioned by ſome great heavy ſoft body rubbing violently againſt the panneis in a croſs direction. A ſimilar noiſe was heard, at the ſame time, by another gentleman on the firſt floor, though in neither caſe was there felt any concuſſion. In a houſe, however, near to the head of the town, and in another a little above the croſs, a tremulous motion accompanied the ſhock, which a good deal alarmed thoſe who felt it. In the houſe at the College, as well as at another houſe at Greenhead, ſome tame birds in cages were thrown into great conſternation, or fluttering, juſt at the time the other ſymptoms of the ſhock were moſt remarkable. The weather at this time was very ſtill and mild, with an uniform cloudineſs all around.

Accounts from Aberdeen mention that the earthquake was likewiſe felt there, by ſome perſons who happened at that time to be out of bed. It felt to them as if ſome perſon had gently jogged their chairs.

Friday, July 21. the Court of Seſſion determined a queſtion of very general importance, reſpecting the powers of Magiſtrates of burghs to raiſe the dues of admiſſion of ſtrangers into their incorporation. By the charter to the town of Aberdeen, the magiſtrates and town council are authoriſed to have a merchant guildry and guild courts, and to uplift and receive all the dues of theſe courts, while all perſons, not burgeſſes, are prohibited from exerciſing traffic, commerce, or merchandiſe within the burgh. In the laſt century, a variety of acts of council were paſſed regulating the rate of admiſſion into the guildry, ſome fixing it at a higher, and ſome at a lower rate; but, in 1699, an act was paſſed, declaring, that each perſon, at his admiſſion, ſhould pay the ſum of 100 l. Scots to the common good, which, with ſome other petty dues, raiſed the expence to 12 l. 10s. Sterling. In the year 1779, the magiſtrates paſſed an act of council, augmenting the compoſition for admiſſion to 25 l. Sterling in full of all demands. This act of council was brought under reduction before the Court of Seſſion, at the inſtance of ſeveral people deſirous of being admitted burgeſſes, who argued, that the magiſtrates had no power to augment the rate of admiſſion arbitrarily; and that if it ſhould be found they had a power to do ſo, they might create a monopoly in favour of the preſent burgeſſes and their deſcendants. They further argued, that the ſituation of the common good of the burgh did not require any ſuch extraordinary aid, and that at any rate, if ſuch was requiſite, it could only be impoſed by the magiſtrates, in conjunction with the majority of reſidenters in the burgh. On the other hand, the magiſtrates, diſclaiming any intention of ſetting up a monopoly, and admitting that their proceedings were ſubject to the controul of the Court of Seſſion, maintained, that as by their charter they were entitled to exclude every perſon from carrying on traffic within their burgh, except ſuch as were admitted burgeſſes, and as no ſpecific ſum was mentioned in the charter, on payment of which the right was to be

conferred,

conferred, they had a title to impoſe ſuch a compoſition or fine for admiſſion, as was commenſurated to the advantages ariſing from it, and to the exigencies of their funds, more particularly if it ſhould appear, that the debts owing by the community had been increaſed by erecting public works, from which thoſe carrying on trade within the town derived great advantage; and they condeſcended on public works erected within theſe twenty years, the expence whereof amounted to many thouſand pounds Sterling. The Court, after mature deliberation on the ſubject, declared their unanimous opinion, that the magiſtrates of burghs, who are not limited by their charter, have a diſcretionary power of raiſing the dues of admiſſion, ſubject to the controul of the Court; but that in this caſe, the magiſtrates, ſo far from abuſing their powers, had exerciſed them with great diſcretion; ſeveral of their Lordſhips mentioning, from their own obſervation, the great improvements that had been lately made in the city of Aberdeen, which muſt be of great advantage to the inhabitants, and applauding the public ſpirit diſplayed in the execution thereof.—They therefore repelled the reaſons of reduction, and found the magiſtrates entitled to expences.

An advertiſement was publiſhed by the Magiſtrates of Edinburgh, July 22. intimating, That the Town-council of Edinburgh, with conſent of the Honourable Lord Alva, proprietor of part of the Square at the weſt end of the extended royalty, have directed, that the ſaid Square ſhall be called *Charlotte's Square*, in place of St George's Square, as marked in the plan.

A general meeting of the Highland Society of Edinburgh, was held at that place on Monday July 24. agreeable to the inſtitution, and honoured by a numerous attendance of noblemen and gentlemen diſtinguiſhed for their patriotic exertions to promote the welfare of their country.

In abſence of the Duke of Argyle, Preſident of the Society, the Earl of Moray took the chair, as Vice Preſident, and a number of great and reſpectable names were added to the liſt of members, after being ballotted, as required by the rules of the Society.

The proceedings of their committee of directors and managers for the current year were read over and highly approved of, thanks were voted to the Earl of Moray, convener, and to his Grace the Duke of Argyle, the Earls of Breadalbane and Dunmore, the Lord Advocate for Scotland, George Dempſter, Eſq; and others of the committee formerly appointed to meet in London, as they all merited the higheſt praiſe for their attention to the eſſential intereſt and welfare of this inſtitution, which they have, more particularly on that occaſion, eminently promoted. And,

Upon reſuming the conſideration of the proceedings of committee, in relation to a letter to the ſecretary, from the Secretary of the Highland Society of London, accompanying the reſolutions of that Society, which declare the whole members of the Edinburgh Society honorary members of the London Society, and expreſs the warmeſt regard and beſt wiſhes for the ſucceſs and proſperity of their Siſter-Society, in their views and ſyſtem of promoting the intereſt of their country,

The meeting unanimouſly declared their aſſent to the propoſition of the London Society; and, in return for this mark of regard and reſpect which they have ſhewn, Reſolved, That the privilege of honorary members of this inſtitution, ſhall in like manner be conferred on all the members of that Society, ſo as to promote, in the moſt effectual manner, the views of both Societies in the ſame patriotic line.

Reſolved unanimouſly to approve of the opinion of the committee in voting the thanks of this meeting to the Right Honourable Henry Dundas of Melville, Treaſurer of the Navy, for his ready ſupport and attention in forwarding the views of this Society; and that Mr Dundas be admitted an honorary member thereof.

Reſolved alſo, upon motion, That Henry Beaufoy, Eſq; chairman of the Committee of the Houſe of Commons on fiſheries, who has diſtinguiſhed himſelf as a friend to this country, ſhall be declared an honorary member.

The meeting then took under conſideration the reſolutions of committee, approving highly of the ſpirited exertions of the noblemen and gentlemen who compoſe the Britiſh Society for extending the fiſheries, and improving the ſea-coaſts of the kingdom, lately eſtabliſhed by act of parliament, and earneſtly recommending every aid and aſſiſtance to that patriotic company.

The Society unanimouſly approved of the reſolutions of their committee on that ſubject; and, in order to encourage and forward this meaſure, which is of great national importance, a ſubſcription was begun, and ſhares to a conſiderable amount inſtantly ſubſcribed. And, by directions of the meeting, ſubſcription-papers, tranſmitted from London to the ſecretary of this Society, are lodged in his hands, and alſo at the Royal Bank, and with Sir William Forbes, Sir James Hunter, and Co. Meſſ. Mansfield, Ramſay, and Co. and Meſſ. Allan and Steuart.

The Meeting, upon motion, further reſolved to open a private ſubſcription, by members of this inſtitution only, for obtaining a royal charter to incorporate the Society; and alſo for enabling them, as a body, to ſubſcribe to the ſaid Joint Stock Company, for certain numbers of ſhares, beſides thoſe ſubſcribed by individual members; ſo that every gentleman of the Society may have an opportunity of contributing voluntarily to this patriotic plan, ſo well intended by the promoters of it to the intereſt of the nation in general.

The following article, relating to the Orphan Hoſpital of Edinburgh, appeared in the Caledonian Mercury of July 26.

"The anniverſary ſermon for the benefit of the Orphan Hoſpital, is to be preached in St Andrew's Kirk, New-Town, on Tueſday Aug. 1. at 11 o'clock forenoon; after which the Orphans will ſing a hymn of gratitude to their bountiful benefactors.

The Managers, truſting to the benevolence of the public, who have teſtified their regard to that pious inſtitution by many donations and legacies, at laſt election admitted, from numerous petitions of poor widows with indigent families, 35 orphans, which is 25 more than the preſent funds of the Hoſpital can maintain. This expence, with many neceſſary improvements on the houſe, render contributions at this time the more neceſſary.

It is therefore, expected, that thoſe who cannot attend the anniverſay ſermon will ſend their mite to the ſupport of 140 pleaſant, induſtrious orphans, who have, ſince Auguſt laſt, after ſchool hours, when they learn reading, writing, arithmetic, muſic, and the principles of religion, performed, with their own little hands, the following work, viz.

The girls have ſpun as much yarn as makes 483 yards of linen cloth, which they have made into ſhirts, &c. for the whole family. They have made all their own gowns, petticoats, and other apparel. They make all the beds, clean the wards and whole houſe, aſſiſt in waſhing and dreſſing the linens, and ſerve by turns in the kitchen. The youngeſt girls are employed in making lace, which is ſold at the Hoſpital.

The boys have ſpun as much yarn as makes 453 yards woollen ſtuff to cloathe the whole family. As tailors, they have made and mended all their own clothes; as ſhoemakers, have made and mended all the Hoſpital ſhoes; and as bookbinders, bound all their own books. The boys and girls have knit 280 pairs of ſtockings; and when they are not at play without doors, to keep their young minds cheerful, they are encouraged to ſing and dance in the houſe to their own muſic.

As an evidence of the proper economy of the Orphan Hoſpital, there has not been a death in that houſe ſince Feb. 1784. Where can a family of 130 to 140 children be found, out of which, for two and a half years, none have died? and who are more happy or beneficial to the community? Or where can a ſmall donation or legacy be more properly applied, to indulge the pleaſant feelings of humanity, or promote the great ends of religion and civil ſociety?

N. B. Above one half of the Orphans have a title to the Charity Workhouſe, whereby about 400 l. per annum is ſaved to the citizens, who are obliged to ſupport that inſtitution; while the Orphans are better qualified for ſervants, apprentices, or virtuous and uſeful members of the community."

The collection at the church upon the above occaſion was upwards of 50 l.

At Edinburgh, on Thurſday, July 27. betwixt ten forenoon, and three afternoon, it blew almoſt a hurricane, from the ſouth and ſouth-weſt. So ſevere a ſtorm ſeldom happens here at this ſeaſon. It was ſo violent as to blow down a number of hay-ricks in the country adjacent, and to unroof ſeveral houſes. This laſt diſaſter will be ſeverely felt, eſpecially at a time of ſuch general ſcarcity of ſtraw, with which poor people's houſes in the country are, for the moſt part, thatched. The gardens have alſo ſuffered conſiderably. Several trees were torn up entirely by the roots in ſome places; and in moſt the fruit was much ſhaken.

On

On Monday, July 31. came on at Edinburgh, before the High Court of Juſticiary, the trial of James Graham, accuſed of having committed various frauds, under the names of Capt. Stewart, Capt. Robertſon, Captain Hamilton, Captain Graham, Major Gordon, &c. [p. 205.] The indictment was laid both on the common law, and the ſtatute of the 30th Geo. II. To the queſtion of Guilty or not, the pannel anſwered, Not guilty at preſent. The counſel for the pannel objecting to that part of the indictment laid upon the ſtatute, the Lord Advocate paſſed from it, and the Court reſtricted the libel to an arbitrary puniſhment. The jury were then choſen; and juſt as the proſecutor was about to adduce his evidence, the pannel, in a ſhort but diſtinct and collected ſpeech, addreſſed the Court, informing them, that a train of unexampled misfortunes had led him to do things which he now abhorred, and was ſincerely ſorry for; that at one time, he meant to have brought evidence to prove the character he maintained before he was induced to commit the crimes for which he was arraigned; but theſe witneſſes being at more than 500 miles diſtance, it was impoſſible he ſhould be able to bring them forward. He was now, however, fully determined to lead a very different life from that which he had purſued of late; and, in order to ſave the time of the Court, pled *guilty*. After the pannel had ſigned his judicial acknowledgement, the jury were incloſed in the robing room, and the Court ſat till they returned with their verdict, all in one voice finding the pannel *guilty*.

Next day the Lords delivered their opinions. Lord Hailes, as ſenior judge, ſtated, in a very forcible manner, the heinouſneſs of the crimes of which the pannel had been accuſed, and ſince convicted upon his own judicial confeſſion. His Lordſhip thought, that no puniſhment, ſhort of death, could be too ſevere for ſuch a train of enormities. He was not, however, in this particular inſtance, for carrying the puniſhment ſo far as their Lordſhips were well entitled to do by the common law of the country; for he did not think the ſtatute of Geo. II. extended to Scotland; and the Lord Advocate, the preceding day, had accordingly departed from it. His Lordſhip ſaid, he was always averſe to the puniſhment of the pillory, though nothing could be more proper than expoſing to the view of the populace a perſon who had made it his buſineſs to impoſe upon the public. His reaſons for being againſt pillorying in general, were, that if the culprit happened to be a favourite of the mob, he was then conſidered in the ſituation of a martyr, inſtead of a criminal; if, on the contrary, the rabble entertained different ſentiments concerning the unfortunate victim, they then took the liberty of abuſing him. In both caſes the laws of the country were ſet at defiance. He was therefore againſt adopting that mode of puniſhment. Whipping was another chaſtiſement, which, by the common law, their Lordſhips had a power to inflict. This, likewiſe, he would chuſe to avoid, in the preſent caſe; becauſe, if the pannel's contrition, which he had expreſſed the preceding day, was ſincere, and he hoped it was, the diſgrace attending being publicly whipped through the ſtreets, might in a great meaſure prevent him from putting in execution the reſolution he had then ſolemnly avowed, of turning again to the paths of virtue. In order to give him an opportunity, therefore, to put his reſolve in practice, he would propoſe, that he ſhould only be tranſported from Great Britain for 14 years, and the firſt ſeven years of his ſervice to be adjudged to the tranſporter. The other judges agreed with Lord Hailes in every reſpect, except as to the time of tranſportation, which was at laſt ſettled; and ſentence was pronounced in the terms propoſed by Lord Braxfield, ordaining the pannel to be tranſported for ſeven years, and his ſervice adjudged for five.

The pannel's real name is Lawſon. He was bred a baker; and ſerved ſeveral perſons in Edinburgh both as a baker and confectioner. He was taken up at Edinburgh for ſwindling practices about two years ago, but was not brought to trial

On Monday, Aug. 14. Principal Robertſon received a third donative of 50 l. to the Royal Infirmary, from the ſame humane and unknown benefactor, who wiſhes the ſums which he has given now and formerly, to be applied for the relief of indigent lunatics. As Principal Robertſon is deſirous of communicating to this charitable perſon, ſome particulars concerning the mode of employing his donative, he requeſts of him to point out ſome way of conveying this information, that may be moſt conſiſtent with his [illegible] of remaining unknown.

On Wedneſday, Aug. 16. was he[ld] Edinburgh the general annual conve[ner]

of delegates from the burgeſſes of Royal Boroughs aſſociated for the purpoſes of Reform. The meeting was very reſpectable, delegates having appeared for a great number of the boroughs.

Mr Graham of Gartmore took the chair as Preſes, and Mr Ewen of Aberdeen as Secretary.

The convention continued the former committee, with inſtructions forthwith to proceed to take the moſt prudent and vigorous meaſures for having the bill formerly approved of by the convention paſſed into a law, as there is now a certainty of their having the concurrence of a majority of the royal boroughs of Scotland.

The convention having conſidered a circular letter from the burgeſſes of Dumbarton, they are of opinion, that a deciſion of the queſtion in which the burgeſſes of that borough are engaged, is of ſerious importance to the burgeſſes of all the royal boroughs of Scotland; and therefore they recommend to the committees in the different boroughs, to give the burgeſſes of Dumbarton ſuch countenance and aſſiſtance in their preſent honourable ſtruggle as circumſtances may permit; and the convention deem this recommendation the more proper and neceſſary, that the late convention of the town-councils of Scotland have determined to take upon themſelves the defence of the magiſtrates of Dumbarton, whereby the whole power and importance of all the town-councils in Scotland are to be employed againſt the burgeſſes of the ſmall, though ſpirited borough of Dumbarton.

The meeting conſidered a letter from the Rt Hon. the Lord Gardenſton, giving 100l. Sterling towards defraying the expence of reform, and concluding in theſe words: "If more is wanted, I am ready and willing." Reſolved unanimouſly, That independent of the amount of Lord Gardenſton's donation, which is liberal and handſome in the higheſt degree, they conſider his Lordſhip's approbation as a teſtimony the moſt honourable and reſpectable in ſupport of the propriety of the meaſures of reform; and they, with the utmoſt unanimity and cordiality, reſolved, that the warmeſt thanks of this convention be given to his Lordſhip for ſo diſtinguiſhed an act of generoſity and public ſpirit. A donation ſo liberal, proceeding from motives ſo honourable, will ever ſecure to the giver the public gratitude and eſteem; and reſolved, that this vote of thanks be ſigned by the Preſes and Secretary, and that the ſame be tranſmitted to his Lordſhip by the ſecretary.

The meeting alſo reſolved unanimouſly, That the thanks of the convention be given to the preſes, Mr Graham of Gartmore, for the decided and ſpirited part he has taken in relation to the meaſures of reform, and for the extreme propriety of his conduct in the chair.

Monday, Aug. 21. came on before the High Court of Juſticiary, at Edinburgh, the trial of Archibald Cullens, indicted at the inſtance of his Majeſty's Advocate, for having, on the 3d of June laſt, cut and wounded his wife in a dangerous manner in the throat and hands with a knife or razor. The libel was reſtricted to an arbitrary puniſhment. After examining witneſſes, the Lord Advocate ſummed up the evidence for the crown, and Mr M'Conochie for the pannel. Lord Eſkgrove, in abſence of Lord Juſtice-Clerk, delivered a charge to the jury, who were afterwards incloſed, and next day returned a verdict, unanimouſly finding him *guilty*. The Court ſentenced him to be whipt through the ſtreets of Edinburgh, on Wedneſday, Sept. 6. thereafter to be tranſported for fourteen years, to ſuch place beyond ſeas as his Majeſty and Council ſhall determine, and his ſervice adjudged for ſeven years; with certification, if he be found in any part of Great Britain before the expiry of the fourteen years, that he ſhall ſuffer death.

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MARRIAGES.

*Aug.* 13. At Dalhouſie Caſtle, Sir Thomas Moncrieffe of Moncrieffe, Bt, to Lady Elizabeth Ramſay, eldeſt daughter of the Earl of Dalhouſie.

23. John Erſkine, Eſq; Advocate ſon of the Hon. James Erſkine of Alva, one of the Senators of the College of Juſtice, to Miſs Chriſtian Carruthers, eldeſt daughter of John Carruthers, Eſq; late of Holmains, one of the Surveyors-General of the Window-lights.

25. At Crowhill, the Rev. Mr Samuel Charters, miniſter at Wilkoun, to Miſs Scott of Crowhill.

28. At Milnhead-houſe, near Dumfries, James Carruthers, Eſq; of Warrunbie, to Miſs Mary Butter, eldeſt daughter of the late Mr Charles Butter, merchant in Edinburgh.

28. The Rev. Mr Monteath, miniſter of Neilſton, to Miſs Ann Cunningham, daughter of George Cunningham, Eſq; of Monkredden.

28. At Cardroſs, the Rev. Mr William Sibbald, miniſter of Johnſton, to Miſs Frances

ees Davies Bontein, daughter of the deceaſed Thomas Bontein, Eſq; of Jamaica.

29. At Edinburgh, Sir George Ramſay of Banff, Bt, to the Hon. Miſs Eleonora Fraſer, daughter of the late George Lord Salton.

30. Mr Levit, of Piccadilly, London, to Miſs Detries, a Jeweſs of the city, in the yard of the Black Bear inn, according to the cuſtom of the Jewiſh religion, in the open air.—The company aſſembled about two o'clock. In the yard a canopy was ſupported by four perſons, under which the High Prieſt, Dr Shift, dreſſed in the habit of his order, and the reſt of the readers of the great Synagogue in St Helen's, waited the arrival of the parties. To this canopy the bride was conducted (wearing a veil) by the two mothers, and the bridegroom by the two fathers. The ceremony commenced immediately, by the bride being led three times round the bridegroom. A prayer was then repeated by the High Prieſt, and the ring was put on the bride's finger, in nearly the ſame manner as practiſed in the Engliſh Church. The Prieſt then took into his hand a glaſs of wine, and after having repeated another prayer, or exhortation, gave it firſt to the bridegroom, and then to the bride, who each drank. The glaſs was then broke under the foot of the bridegroom, and the ceremony was concluded over an elegant dinner for upwards of 200 perſons. In the evening was a ball—perhaps a more beautiful aſſembly of the female part of the tribe of Abraham was never ſeen on ſuch an occaſion.

BIRTHS.

*Aug.* 5. At Lord Gower's houſe, Portland-Place, London, the Counteſs of Sutherland, of a ſon.

23. At her houſe in Roſs-ſhire, Mrs Macleod of Geanies, of a daughter.

24. Mrs Sharp of Houſton, of a daughter.

27. At Queensferry, Mrs Crawford of Carronbank, of a ſon.

31. Lady Elibank, of a daughter.

31. Mrs Anderſon of Winterfield, of a ſon.

DEATHS.

*July* 1. At Edinburgh, Mrs Baddeley, a lady well known for her theatric abilities, her beauty, and the miſeries into which ſhe plunged herſelf by obeying the dictates of impetuous paſſions. Mrs Baddeley made her firſt appearance on the ſtage in the character of Ophelia, and her performance was pronounced inimitable. Mr Garrick always gave the moſt ample teſtimony to her merits. As a ſinger, where-ever pathetic expreſſion was neceſſary, ſhe ſtood unrivalled. Her manner of ſinging and acting the ſong of "Sweet "Willy O!" in the Jubilee, put many pounds into the purſes of the managers. She was not confined to ſinging characters: in the ſofter characters of both comedy and tragedy ſhe had few, if any, ſuperiors. In the part of Fanny in the Clandeſtine Marriage, the beauty of her perſon, and the elegant ſimplicity of her performance, were extremely conſpicuous, and ſo much attracted the notice of his Majeſty, that he commanded a picture to be taken of Fanny's principal ſcene with Lord Ogleby, for which purpoſe Mrs Baddeley and Mr King ſat to Zoffanij. One of Mrs Baddeley's admired performances in Tragedy was Mrs Beverley, in the Gameſter, her firſt appearance in which was occaſioned by Mrs Barry (now Mrs Crawford) being prevented by indiſpoſition from performing that character after it had been ſo announced. Owing to ſome private motive, ſhe unexpectedly quitted London for an engagement in Dublin; and from this period her theatrical career ſeems to have been checked by misfortune. For ſome years paſt ſhe labour.ed under a nervous diſorder, and until her death, was ſupported by a ſmall ſtipend from the Drury-lane fund, and by a ſubſcription from the theatres in London. She fell a victim to her diſtreſſes in her 42d year.

22. At Tannachy, near Forres, Alexander Urquhart, Eſq;

23. At Homerton, in the 82d year of his age, Iſrael Iſaacs, Eſq; the laſt of the body of merchants who in 1746 advanced two millions of money to government at a day's notice.

29. At Caſtletown, Richard Anderſon, Eſq; of Windiegoul.

29. At Edinburgh, in the 71ſt year of his age, Mr David Lindſay, writer.

*Aug.* 4. The Rev. Mr Robert Gauld, miniſter at Culſamond.

6. At Edinburgh, Charles Dundas, Eſq; ſecond ſon of the deceaſed William Dundas of Airth.

6. At Beckenham, Mrs Bridgman, in her 96th year. She was the laſt penſioner on Queen Caroline's liſt.

7. At Edinburgh, Mr William Dick, writer to the ſignet.

7. At Ormſton hill, Mrs Cullen, wife of Dr William Cullen, phyſician in Edinburgh.

9. At Finzean, Francis Farquharſon, Eſq; of Finzean.

10. In his 86th year, Mr John Akerman, ſenior lay-vicar of Exeter Cathedral, where he had been a member 77 years.

10. At Caſtlebank, near Lanerk, Mrs Barbara Murray, relict of Bailie Chriſtopher Bannatyne, merchant in Lanerk, and daughter of the late Sir William Murray of Spittlehaugh.

10. At London, Sir Robert Hamilton, Colonel of the 40th regiment.

13. At Muſſelburgh, Gilbert Stuart, LL. D. ſon of Mr George Stuart profeſſor of humanity in the Univerſity of Edinburgh. After finiſhing his claſſical and philoſophical ſtudies, Gilbert applied himſelf to juriſprudence, but never followed the profeſſion of the

the law. He was not quite twenty two years old when he publiſhed "An Hiſtorical Diſſertation concerning the Antiquity of the Engliſh Conſtitution;" and was advanced for it, by the Univerſity, to the degree of doctor of the civil and canon law. After a ſtudious interval of ſome years, he produced a very capital work, under the title of "A View of Society in Europe, in its Progreſs from Rudeneſs to Refinement; or, Inquiries concerning the Hiſtory of Laws, Government, and Manners." About the time of the publication of the firſt edition of this performance, having turned his thoughts to an academical life, he aſked for the profeſſorſhip of public law in the Univerſity of Edinburgh. This place, it has been ſaid by himſelf, was promiſed him by the miniſter; but that he was defeated in the nomination, through Dr Robertſon, whom he repreſented as under many obligations to him. After this diſpute, Dr Stuart publiſhed "Obſervations concerning the Public Law and the Conſtitutional Hiſtory of Scotland," in which he examined, with a critical care, the preliminary book to Dr Robertſon's "Hiſtory." His next work was, "The Hiſtory of the Reformation;" a book which deſerves praiſe for the eaſy dignity of the narrative, and for ſtrict impartiality. His laſt great work, was "The Hiſtory of Scotland, from the Eſtabliſhment of the Reformation to the Death of Queen Mary," which appeared in 1782, in 2 vols 4to, [ſee vol. 44.] For the laſt three years, his literary labours have been principally confined to the Engliſh Review and the Political Herald, which latter work he firſt projected.

14. At Spithead, Lady Eliza Hope, daughter of the Earl of Hopetoun.

14. At Alloa, the Rev. Mr William Moncrieff miniſter, and profeſſor of divinity during the courſe of 24 years for the Aſſociate Synod.

14 At Edinburgh, Adam Cuningham Durham, Eſq; of Bonnington.

15. At London, Thomas Tyrwhitt, Eſq; formerly clerk of the Houſe of Commons, and one of the governors of the Britiſh Muſeum, a gentleman diſtinguiſhed for his literary and critical abilities.

16. At Clayhills, near Aberdeen, John Auldjo, Eſq; of Portlethen, in the 76th year of his age.

*Berlin, Aug.* 19. The King of Pruſſia, having at intervals fallen into a kind of lethargy for the two preceding days, expired on the th inſt. at three o'clock in the morning, in e ſeventy-fifth year of his age, having igned forty-ſix years, two months, and wenteen days. Some hours afterwards this ent was publicly announced to the garriſon Berlin by the Governor (the gates being ut), who at the ſame time cauſed the oaths of allegiance to his preſent Majeſty to be tendered to the different regiments. The funeral pomp is to take place at Potzdam on Sept. 1. with the ſame ceremonies that were performed at the death of his late Majeſty's father.

The King arrived here yeſterday morning, and gave audience to his miniſters, general officers, and other perſons of diſtinction, when his Majeſty was pleaſed to confer the order of the Black Eagle on Count Hertzberg. *Lond. Gaz.*

His Majeſty Frederic III. King of Pruſſia, was born Jan 24. 1712. and married, June 12. 1733, by command of his father, Eliſabeth-Chriſtiana, of Brunſwic-Lunenburgh Bevern. He ſucceeded his father in May 1740. His Majeſty was rather below the middle ſize, well made, and remarkably active. He had become hardy by exerciſe and a laborious life, for his conſtitution originally was none of the ſtrongeſt. His look announced ſpirit and penetration. He had fine blue eyes; his voice was muſical and articulate, and he ſcarcely ever ſpoke but with a ſmile. By thoſe who had only ſeen his picture, a different opinion might be formed. His features acquired a wonderful degree of animation while he converſed, which is entirely loſt on canvas. For ſome time before his death he ſtooped conſiderably, and inclined his head almoſt conſtantly to one ſide. He was very partial to the French language, which he ſpoke with the utmoſt fluency, and much more accuracy than the German. His dreſs ſcarcely ever varied; it conſiſted of a blue coat, lined and faced with red, and yellow waiſtcoat and breeches. His whole wardrobe conſiſted of two blue coats faced with red, two yellow waiſtcoats, three pair of yellow breeches, and a ſuit of blue velvet embroidered with ſilver, for grand occaſions. The velvet ſuit, though twenty years of age, enjoyed all the vigour of youth. He always wore boots with Huſſar tops, which fell in wrinkles about his ancles. His hat would have been thought extravagantly large in England, though of the ſize commonly uſed by the Pruſſian officers of cavalry. He generally wore one of the large ſide corners over his forehead and eyes, and the front cock on one ſide. His hair was queued behind, and dreſſed with a ſingle curl on one ſide; and, from the careleſſneſs with which it was dreſſed, one ſhould be taught to believe that the friſſeur was greatly hurried in the execution of his office. He uſed a large gold ſnuff-box, the lid ornamented with diamonds, and took an immoderate quantity of Spaniſh ſnuff, the marks of which often appeared on his waiſtcoat and breeches, which were alſo liable to be ſoiled by the paws of two or three Italian greyhounds, which he frequently carried. His time was all

all dedicated methodically to different occupations, either of buſineſs or amuſement. As ſoon as he got up in the morning he dreſſed, which ſerved him for the whole day. All buſineſs with the King was tranſacted by letters. Every petition or propoſal was made in this form, which was ſo invariably adhered to, that any of his Generals who wiſhed to promote a cadet to the rank of enſign, would not venture to make his propoſal in any other manner. Among his writings the "Memoirs for an Hiſtory of Brandenburgh to the End of the Reign of Frederic I." printed at Berlin, 1751, and his "Code of Laws", deſervedly rank foremoſt: the reſt are miſcellaneous, in poetry and proſe.

The King had three brothers and ſix ſiſters. His brothers were, 1. William-Auguſtus, father of the preſent King, born Aug. 9, 1722. 2. Frederic-Henry, born Jan. 18. 1725-6. 3. Auguſtus-Ferdinand, born May 22, 1730. —His ſiſters were, 1. Frederica Auguſta, born July 3. 1709, married, to the Hereditary Prince of Culmbach, Nov. 20, 1731. 2. Frederica-Louiſa, born Sept. 28, 1714, married May 30. 1729, to Charles-Frederic Margrave of Brandenburgh Anſpach. 3. Philippina-Charlotta, born March 13, 1716. 4. Dorothea-Sophia, born Jan. 26, 1719, married Nov. 10. 1734, to Margrave Frederic-William de Schwed. 5. Louiſa-Ulderica, born July 24. 1720. 6. Anne-Amelia, born Nov. 9. 1723. Living without iſſue, he is ſucceeded by his nephew Frederic-William, now Frederic IV. ſon of William Auguſtus, brother to the late King, by the Princeſs Louiſa-Amelia, of Brunſwic Wolfenbuttle. Frederic IV. was born Sept. 25. 1744. He married, firſt, July 14. 1765, the Princeſs Eliſabeth Chriſtiana-Ulrica, of Brunſwic-Wolfenbuttle, by whom he has one daughter, Charlotte, born 1767—and, ſecond, July 14. 1769. Frederica-Louiſa, of Heſſe-Darmſtadt, by whom he has five ſons: Frederic-William, born 1770; Frederic-Charles-Lewis, born 1773; Frederic-Chriſtian-Auguſtus, born 178 ; another, born 1781; and another, 1783, and a daughter, Frederica-Louiſa-Wilhelmina, born 1774.

23 At Glenbucket, in an advanced age, the Rev Mr Duff, miniſter at Rothimay.

25 Major Scott, Lieutenant-Governor of St Helena. Arriving a few days ago from the execution of his duty, for the recovery of his health, he was arreſted by two ſheriffs officers, at a coffee-houſe for 2800l. He was in bed, and in ſo weak and dangerous a ſtate, that he declared his total incapacity of being moved, or even of ſtirring; and the maſter of the houſe, confirming the truth of his declaration, offered every accommodation which his houſe could afford, and full permiſſion to bring as many of their aſſiſtants as they thought proper; but the officers refuſed every propoſal, and inſiſted upon carrying their priſoner to a ſpunging-houſe. By this time, the phyſician who attended the Major arrived, and gave his opinion alſo; but nothing could avail, the officers perſiſted, and compelled the unfortunate gentleman to get out of bed; but in putting on his cloaths he expired!

27 At Kenſington, near Woodſtock, Oxford county, aged 61, Mr Thomas Evans, farrier; a character of a very extraordinary nature; who, during his reſidence in that part of the country, which was upwards of 20 years, was never known to purchaſe more than one loaf of bread. It is not known that he ever frequented any place of divine worſhip; for the acquiſition of money was his ſole object; ſeveral inſignificant trifles were found in his ſtables: add to this, that he was ſo addicted to penury as to deny himſelf the common neceſſaries of life. This very ſingular character had amaſſed no leſs a ſum than between 2 and 3000l. which, on his dying inteſtate, falls to two maiden ſiſters, of Farnham Royal, in the county of Bucks. No leſs than 161 guineas, and about 5l. in ſilver, were found in one corner of his box incloſed in two purſes. This prodigy was an old bachelor.

## PREFERMENTS.

*From the London Gazette.*

The King has been pleaſed,

*Aug.* 8. to grant the dignities of a Baron and Earl of the kingdom of Great Britain to his Grace John Murray Duke of Athol, and the heirs-male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, ſtyle, and title of Baron Murray, of Stanley, in the county of Glouceſter, and Earl Strange.

—to grant the dignity of a Viſcount of the kingdom of Great Britain to the Rt Hon. James Earl of Abercorn, and the heirs-male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, ſtyle, and title of Viſcount Hamilton, of Hamilton, in the county of Leiceſter; with remainder to John James Hamilton, Eſq; ſon of the Hon. John Hamilton, deceaſed, late brother to the ſaid James Earl of Abercorn, and the heirs-male of his body lawfully begotten.

—to grant the dignity of a Baron of the kingdom of Great Britain to his Grace George Montagu, Duke of Montagu, Knight of the Garter, for and during his natural life, by the name, ſtyle, and title of Baron Montagu, of Boughtoun, in the county of Northampton, with remainder to the Rt Hon. Henry James Montagu (commonly called Lord Henry James Montagu), ſecond ſon of his Grace Henry Duke of Buccleugh, Knight of the Thiſtle, and of Elizabeth Ducheſs of Buccleugh his wife, daughter of the ſaid George Duke of Montagu, and the heirs-male of his body lawfully begotten; and with

with remainder to the third and other afterborn ſons of the ſaid Ducheſs ſucceſſively in tail male.

—to grant the dignity of a Baron of the kingdom of Great Britain to his Grace William Douglas, Duke of Queenſberry, Knight of the Thiſtle, and the heirs-male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, ſtyle, and title of Lord Douglas, Baron Douglas, of Ameſbury, in the county of Wilts.

—to grant the dignity of a Baron of the kingdom of Great Britain to the Rt Hon. George de la Poer, Earl of Tyrone, of the kingdom of Ireland, Knight of St Patrick, and the heirs-male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, ſtyle, and title of Baron Tyrone, of Haverfordweſt, in the county of Pembroke.

—to grant the dignity of a Baron of the kingdom of Great Britain to the Rt Hon. Richard Boyle, Earl of Shannon, of the kingdom of Ireland, Knight of St Patrick, and the heirs-male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, ſtyle, and title of Baron Carleton, of Carleton, in the county of York.

—to grant the dignity of a Baron of the kingdom of Great Britain to the Rt Hon. John Huſſey, Baron Delaval, of the kingdom of Ireland, and the heirs-male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, ſtyle, and title of Lord Delaval, Baron of Delaval, in the county of Northumberland.

—to grant the like dignity of a Baron of the kingdom of Great Britain to the ſeveral Gentlemen following, and the heirs-male of their reſpective bodies lawfully begotten, by the names, ſtyles, and titles under-mentioned, viz.

The Rt Hon. Charles Jenkinſon, Lord Hawkeſbury, Baron of Hawkeſbury, in the county of Glouceſter:

Sir Harboard Harbord, Bt, Lord Suffield, Baron of Suffield, in the county of Norfolk: And

Sir Guy Carleton, Knight of the Bath, Lord Dorcheſter, Baron of Dorcheſter, in the county of Oxford.

18. to confer the honour of Knighthood on William Hillman, Eſq; mayor of the city of Wincheſter; Alexander Hamilton, Eſq; ſheriff of the county of Devon; and Stephen Nath, Eſq; ſheriff of the city of Briſtol.

23. to confer the honour of Knighthood on Charles Marſh, of Reading, in the county of Berks, Eſq;

25. to confer the honour of Knighthood on Michael Nowell, Eſq; Sheriff of the county of Cornwall.

30. to confer the honour of Knighthood on William Appleby, of the city of Durham, Eſq;

*Queen's Palace, Aug.* 10. The Queen has been pleaſed to appoint Thomas Fauquier, Eſq; to be one of the Gentlemen Uſhers Daily Waiters to her Majeſty, in the room of William Allen, Eſq; deceaſed.

*Lord Chamberlain's office, Aug.* 23. Mr Thomas Normanſell was this day appointed Operator for the Teeth to his Majeſty, in the room of Mr William Rae, deceaſed.

*Prices of Grain at Haddington, Sept.* 2.

| | *Beſt.* | *Second.* | *Third.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wheat, | 22s. 0d. | 21s. 0d. | 20s. 0d. |
| Bear, | 20s. 0d. | 19s. 0d. | 18s. 0d. |
| Oats, | 17s. 0d. | 16s. 0d. | 15s. 0d. |
| Peaſe, | 20s. 0d. | 19s. 0d. | |

New Oats, 14s. 6d. and 14s.

*Edinburgh, Sept.* 8 1786. Oat-meal, 1s. 2d. Bear-meal, 8½d. Peaſe meal. 8½d.

*Burials in the Grayfriars church-yard in Auguſt.*

Males 23 } 45.
Females 22 }

| Age. | No | Diſeaſes, &c. | No |
|---|---|---|---|
| Under 2 | 16 | Aged — — | 7 |
| Between 2 & 5 | 5 | Bowelhive — — | 2 |
| 5 & 10 | 2 | Conſumption — | 9 |
| 10 & 20 | 3 | Fever — | 5 |
| 20 & 30 | 1 | Killed by a fall — | 1 |
| 30 & 40 | 2 | Stillborn — — | 4 |
| 40 & 50 | 3 | Small-pox — | 10 |
| 50 & 60 | 4 | Suddenly — | 2 |
| 60 & 70 | 5 | Teething — | 4 |
| 70 & 80 | 2 | Water in the head — | 1 |
| 80 & 90 | 2 | | |
| 90 & 100 | 0 | | |

PRICES OF STOCKS, Aug. 1.

Bank Stock 150¾
5 per cent. Ann. 112⅞ a 113⅜ a ¼
4 per cent. Ann. 1777, 96⅞ a 97⅛
3 per cent. conſ. 75½ a ⅝
3 per cent. red. 76¼ a ½ a ⅝
Long Ann. 22 9-16ths a ⅝
India Stock 161½
3 per cent. Ann. 72¾
India Bonds, 83s. prem.
India Scrip. 6½ a 7¼ prem.
Navy Bills, 2 diſc.
Exch. Bills, 35 prem.
Lot. Tick. 14l. 11s. a 11s. 6d.
Iriſh Lot. Tick. 5 l. 5 s.

Aug. 24.

Bank Stock 157¾ a 156
5 per cent. Ann. 115 a ¼
4 per cent. Ann. 1777, 98⅛ a 97⅞ a 98
3 per cent. conſ. 77⅞ a ⅝ a 78
3 per cent. red. 78¼ a ⅜
Long Ann. 23 1-16th a ⅛
Ditto 1778, 14 5-16ths a ⅜
South Sea 3 per cent. Old. Ann. 77⅞
India Stock, 169
3 per cent. Ann. 74½
India Bonds unpaid, 107s. prem
India Scrip. 14½ a ¼ prem.
Lottery Tickets, 14 l. 15s.